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Former President Jimmy Carter celebrates 95th birthday

By **BILL BARROW**
Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — Jimmy Carter celebrated his 95th birthday on Tuesday, becoming the first U.S. president to reach that milestone as he continues his humanitarian work and occasionally weighs in on politics and policy. Carter still lives in tiny Plains, Georgia, and planned no public celebrations on Tuesday. But he's had plenty to say recently, warning that re-electing President Donald Trump would be "a disaster" and expressing hopes that his Carter Center will become a more forceful advocate against armed conflicts in the future, including "wars by the United States."



In this Sept. 18, 2019, file photo former President Jimmy Carter acknowledges a student who's question has been picked for him to answer during an annual Carter Town Hall held at Emory University in Atlanta.

Continued on Next Page

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Continued from Front

"I just want to keep the whole world at peace," Carter said as he presented his annual Carter Center report last month.

"We have been at war more than 226 years. We have been at peace for about 16 years" since the Declaration of Independence in 1776, he said. And every U.S. military conflict from the Korean War onward has been a war of "choice," he said.

The 39th president survived a dire cancer diagnosis in 2015 and surpassed George H.W. Bush as the longest-lived U.S. president in history this spring. He's had some trouble walking after a hip replacement in May, but still teaches Sunday School in Plains, and with his wife of 73 years, Rosalynn, now 92, still plans an upcoming trip to help build houses with Habitat for Hu-

manity in Nashville, Tennessee. In his latest appearances at the Carter Center and in a town hall at Emory University, Carter blasted money in politics, urged action to combat the climate crisis, and celebrated the Carter Center's work on public health, election monitoring and conflict resolution. But he said the center can do more to constructively criticize U.S. military engagements. The Carter Center has "never voiced an opinion publicly" on individual wars, he said with some regret, adding: "This is primarily my fault."

"The United States is very deeply inclined to go to war," Carter said, partly to "implant American policies" in other countries, and partly to "make a hero" out of wartime commanders in chief. This has significant economic consequences, he said: China has "been



In this Aug. 27, 2018 file photo, former President Jimmy Carter works with other volunteers on site during the first day of the weeklong Jimmy & Rosalynn Carter Work Project, their 35th work project with Habitat for Humanity, in Mishawaka, Ind. Carter turns 95 on Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2019.

Associated Press

at peace" since he normalized relations with Beijing in 1979, and while the U.S. has spent trillions on military conflict, China has invested similar amounts in high-speed rail, new college campuses and other infrastructure.

Carter talks with the realism of a nonagenarian, born in 1924 when the world population was quarter of what it is today and life expectancy for American males was 58 years. Saying he plans to start spending more time with his extended family, he told the Carter Center

audience that "this may be our last conversation with you ... we may or may not have one next year."

Carter has been accepting visits from several 2020 presidential candidates, but he's held back on endorsing any of his fellow Democrats, offering only clues to his thinking.

Carter said he voted for Bernie Sanders over Hillary Clinton last time, but warns that embracing single-payer, government-run health insurance could cost the Democrats votes among moderates and indepen-

dents. That could rule out Sanders and another progressive favorite, Elizabeth Warren. But Carter also said he'd like to see a woman as president. And he said he couldn't have managed his presidential duties when he was 80, which would nix not only Sanders, at 78, but former Vice President Joe Biden, who is 76. Warren is 70, meaning she'd be nearly 80 at the end of a two-term presidency.

Carter said only that he'll be "voting Democratic" in the general election. By then, he'll be 96. □

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Tax overhaul lawsuit filed by 4 blue states is dismissed

NEW YORK (AP) — A federal judge in New York has ruled that the 2017 federal tax overhaul's cap on state and local tax deductions was not an "unconstitutional assault" on the sovereignty of high-tax Democratic-leaning states.

Judge J. Paul Oetken dismissed a challenge on Mon-

day to the Republican-led tax overhaul filed last year by New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and Maryland. The tax law capped a deduction for state and local taxes at \$10,000. The deduction, known as SALT, was especially popular in high-tax, Democratic states, where many home-

owners saw large increases in their federal tax bill after the cap was enacted. The four blue states sued Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and the Internal Revenue Service in July 2018, alleging that the cap was "an unconstitutional assault on states' sovereign choices." □



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Trump administration loses bid to dismiss monument lawsuits

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A federal judge has rejected the Trump administration's bid to dismiss lawsuits challenging the constitutionality of a 2017 decision to downsize two sprawling national monuments in Utah.

tions, tribal coalitions, an outdoor recreation company and a paleontology organization.

Those groups celebrated getting over an initial hurdle as they attempt to reverse decisions they say left

sions and is confident the judge will side with the administration. Government lawyers argued last year in the request to throw out the lawsuits that the groups lack standing and that the Antiquities Act clearly gives

the president the power to modify monuments.

Trump said he scaled back the size of the monuments to reverse misuse of the Antiquities Act by previous Democratic presidents that led to oversized monu-

ments that hinder energy development, grazing and other uses.

His decision came after he ordered then-Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke to review 27 national monuments around the country. □



This July 9, 2017 file photo, shows a view of Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument in Utah.

Associated Press

U.S. District Court Judge Tanya Chutkan's written decisions issued Monday night means the legal challenges seeking to return the Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante national monuments to their original sizes can move forward.

Chutkan didn't decide the key question at the core of the lawsuits: Does the Antiquities Act give presidents the power to create monuments as well as reduce them?

The government has already created new management plans for the downsized monuments. President Donald Trump downsized Bears Ears by 85% and Grand Staircase by nearly half.

The lawsuits were filed by environmental organiza-

sitive lands and sites vulnerable to damage. Lands cut from the monuments are still under protections afforded to federal lands but are now open to oil and gas drilling and coal mining.

"We're one day closer to overturning Trump's unlawful order that attacks the Grand Staircase-Escalante and Bears Ears national monuments," said Steve Bloch, legal director at the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance conservation group, which is among the organizations mounting the legal challenge. "We're one step closer to the day of reckoning."

The Department of the Interior said in an emailed statement that it supports President Trump's deci-

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Pompeo, Democrats trade intimidation charges in Trump probe



Italian Premier Giuseppe Conte, right, and U.S. Secretary of State, Mike Pompeo pose for the media following their meeting at Chigi Palace premier's office in Rome, Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2019. Associated Press

By LISA MASCARO, MARY CLARE JALONICK and JONATHAN LEMIRE

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Setting a defiant tone, the Trump administration resisted Congress' access to impeachment witnesses Tuesday, even as House Democrats warned such efforts themselves could amount to an impeachable offense.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo tried to delay five current and former officials from providing documents and testimony in the impeachment inquiry that could lead to charges against President Donald Trump. But Democrats were able to set closed-door depositions for Thursday for former special envoy to Ukraine Kurt Volker and next week for ousted U.S. Ambassador Marie Yovanovitch.

The escalating exchange of accusations and warnings signaled yet another stiffening in the confrontation between the executive and legislative branches amid the Democrats' launching of the impeachment inquiry late last week. That followed a national security whistleblower's disclosure of Trump's July

phone call seeking help from the new Ukrainian president in investigating Democratic political rival Joe Biden and Biden's son Hunter.

In a Tuesday evening tweet, Trump cast the impeachment inquiry as a coup "intended to take away the Power of the People, their VOTE, their Freedoms, their Second Amendment, Religion, Military, Border Wall, and their God-given rights as a Citizen of The United States of America!" In fact, a coup is usually defined as a sudden, violent and illegal seizure of government power. The impeachment process is laid out in the U.S. Constitution.

Pompeo said the Democrats were trying to "intimidate" and "bully" the career officials into appearing and claimed it would be "not feasible" as demanded. House investigators countered that it would be illegal for the secretary to try to protect Trump by preventing the officials from talking to Congress.

Some Trump supporters cheered Pompeo's muscular response to the Democrats. But it also complicated the secretary's own situation, coming the day after it was disclosed that

he had listened in during Trump's July phone call with Ukrainian leader Volodymyr Zelenskiy that helped trigger the impeachment inquiry.

"Any effort to intimidate witnesses or prevent them from talking with Congress — including State Department employees — is illegal and will constitute evidence of obstruction of the impeachment inquiry," said three House chairmen, Adam Schiff of the intelligence committee, Eliot Engel of Foreign Affairs, and Elijah Cummings of Oversight.

They said that if he was on Trump's call, "Secretary Pompeo is now a fact witness in the House impeachment inquiry." And they warned, "He should immediately cease intimidating Department witnesses in order to protect himself and the President."

On Wednesday, the State Department's inspector general is expected to brief congressional staff from several House and Senate appropriations, oversight, foreign affairs and intelligence committees on their requests for information and documents on Ukraine, according to an aide familiar with the planning. The inspector general acts independently from Pompeo.

The committees are seeking voluntary testimony from the current and former officials as the House digs into State Department actions and Trump's other calls with foreign leaders that have been shielded from scrutiny.

In halting any appearances by State officials, and demanding that executive branch lawyers accompany them, Pompeo is underscoring Attorney General William Barr's expansive

view of White House authority and setting a tone for conflicts to come.

"I will use all means at my disposal to prevent and expose any attempts to intimidate the dedicated professionals," Pompeo wrote. When issuing a separate subpoena last week as part of the inquiry, the chairmen of the three House committees made it clear that stonewalling their investigation would be fought.

"Your failure or refusal to comply with the subpoena shall constitute evidence of obstruction of the House's impeachment inquiry," the three chairmen wrote.

Democrats often note that obstruction was one of the impeachment articles against Richard Nixon, who resigned the presidency in 1974 in the face of almost certain impeachment.

Volker played a direct role in arranging meetings between Rudy Giuliani, who is Trump's personal lawyer, and Zelenskiy, the chairmen said.

The State Department said that Volker has confirmed that he put a Zelenskiy adviser in contact with Giuliani, at the Ukraine adviser's request.

The former envoy, who has since resigned his position and so is not necessarily bound by Pompeo's directions, is eager to appear as scheduled on Thursday, said one person familiar with the situation, but unauthorized to discuss it and granted anonymity. The career professional believes he acted appropriately and wants to tell his side of the situation, the person said.

Yovanovitch, the career diplomat whose abrupt recall from Ukraine earlier this year raised questions, is set to appear next week. The Democrats also

want to hear from T. Ulrich Brechbuhl, a counselor at the State Department, who also listened in on the Trump-Zelenskiy call, they said.

It's unclear whether Pompeo will comply with the committees' request for documents by Friday. He had declined to comply with their previous requests for information.

Pompeo, traveling in Italy to meet with the country's president and prime minister, ignored shouted question about the impeachment inquiry on Tuesday.

The House investigators are prepared for battle as they probe more deeply into the State Department to try to understand why the administration sought to restrict access to Trump's conversations with foreign leaders.

The whistleblower alleged in an Aug. 12 letter to Congress that the White House tried to "lock down" Trump's July 25 phone call with the new Ukrainian president because it was worried about the contents being leaked to the public.

In recent days, it has been disclosed that the administration similarly tried to restrict information about Trump's calls with other foreign leaders, including Russia's Vladimir Putin and Saudi Arabia's Mohammed bin Salman, by moving memos onto a highly classified computer system.

"It's going to be one heck of a fight to get that information," Schiff told House Democrats during a conference call over the weekend, according to a person granted anonymity to discuss the private session.

As Trump continued to rage against the impeachment inquiry, there was little evidence of a broader White House response. □

Ex-Dallas officer who killed neighbor found guilty of murder

By JAKE BLEIBERG

DALLAS (AP) — A white former Dallas police officer who shot her black unarmed neighbor to death after, she said, mistaking his apartment for her own was convicted of murder Tuesday in a verdict that prompted tears of relief from his family and chants of "black lives matter" from a crowd outside the courtroom.

The same jury that found Amber Guyger guilty in the September 2018 death of her upstairs neighbor, Botham Jean, will consider her fate after hearing additional testimony that started Tuesday afternoon. She could be sentenced to from five years to life in prison under Texas law.

The jury took a matter of hours to convict Guyger, 31, after six days of testimony.

Cheers erupted in the courthouse as the verdict was announced, and someone yelled "Thank you, Jesus!" In the hallway outside the courtroom, a crowd celebrated and chanted "black lives matter." When the prosecutors walked into the hall, they broke into cheers.

After the verdict was read, Guyger sat alone, weeping, at the defense table. Jean's friends and family later testified to explain how his death has affected them. First on the stand was Allison Jean, who said her son was killed just before he was due to turn 27.

"My life has not been the same. It's just been like a roller coaster. I can't sleep, I cannot eat. It's just been the most terrible time for me," she said.

Botham Jean's sister, Allisa Findley, told the jury that she and her mother cry a lot, her formerly "bubbly" younger brother has retreated as if into a shell, and that her father is "not the same."

"It's like the light behind his eyes is off," Findley said.

She said her children are now afraid of police.

Prosecutors also submitted text messages — accepted as evidence over defense objections — that in-



Botham Jean's mother, Allison Jean, rejoices in the courtroom after fired Dallas police Officer Amber Guyger was found guilty of murder, Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2019, in Dallas.

Associated Press

dicated Guyger lacks sensitivity toward black people. In one, she suggests participants at a Martin Luther King Jr. Day parade in Dallas could be persuaded to go home with the use of physical violence and pepper spray. In a message sent to Guyger's phone, the messenger suggests she would like a German shepherd because the dog is racist. Guyger declares that she hates "everything and everyone but y'all." Guyger's defense attorneys can argue that she deserves a light sentence because she acted out of sudden fear and confusion. The judge is expected to provide guidance on sentencing law.

It is unclear how long the punishment phase of the trial will last. Testimony will resume Wednesday.

The basic facts of the unusual shooting were not in dispute throughout the trial. After a long shift at work and still in uniform, Guyger walked up to Jean's apartment — which was on the fourth floor, directly above hers on the third — and found the door unlocked. Thinking the apartment was her own, she drew her service weapon and entered. Jean, an accountant from the Caribbean island nation of St. Lucia, had been

eating a bowl of ice cream when Guyger entered his home and shot him.

The shooting drew widespread attention because of the strange circumstances and because it was one in a string of shootings of unarmed black men by white police officers.

"This is a huge victory, not only for the family of Botham Jean, but this is a victory for black people in America," said Lee Merritt, one of the lawyers for Jean's family. "It's a signal that the tide is going to change here. Police officers are going to be held accountable for their actions, and we believe that will begin to change policing culture around the world."

The jury that convicted

Guyger was largely made up of women and people of color.

Attorney Ben Crump, also representing the family, credited the makeup of the jury for Tuesday's conviction, and said he expects them to deliver a weighty sentence.

"I look and this jury. And I look at the diversity of this jury," he said. "They will see past all the technical, intellectual justifications for an unjustifiable killing. And I believe they will do the right thing."

Dallas Police Association President Mike Mata declined to comment Tuesday afternoon, saying Guyger's lawyers asked him to wait until after sentencing. The group, which rep-

resents city police officers, has paid for Guyger's legal defense and security.

The verdict may have defused tensions that began simmering Monday when jurors were told they could consider whether Guyger had a right to use deadly force under a Texas law known as the castle doctrine — even though she wasn't in her own home.

The law is similar to "stand your ground" measures across the U.S. that state a person has no duty to retreat from an intruder. Prosecutor Jason Fine told jurors that while the law would have empowered Jean to shoot someone barging into his apartment, it doesn't apply "the other way around."

In a frantic 911 call played repeatedly during the trial, Guyger said "I thought it was my apartment" nearly 20 times. Her lawyers argued that the identical physical appearance of the apartment complex from floor to floor frequently led to tenants going to the wrong apartments. But prosecutors questioned how Guyger could have missed numerous signs that she was in the wrong place, asked why she didn't call for backup and suggested she was distracted by sexually explicit phone messages with her police partner. Guyger was arrested three days after the killing. She was later fired and charged with murder. Tension has been high during the trial in Dallas, where five police officers were killed in an attack three years ago. □

Court: FCC can dump net neutrality, but can't bar state laws

WASHINGTON (AP) — A federal court has cleared the way for state and local governments to bar internet providers from favoring some services over others, even as the court affirmed the Federal Communications Commission's right to dump national rules. Even so, legal experts say state and local efforts will be subject to challenges.

Tuesday's appeals court ruling is the latest development to shine a light on states' lead on tech policy. California has enacted a strict data privacy law to protect users on services run by Facebook, Google and Amazon, for example, while Congress is still debating a national privacy law. And it's California that passed the strongest net

neutrality law in the wake of the FCC's 2017 repeal of federal rules approved during the Obama administration. "The pathway has been cleared," said Ryan Singel, a fellow at the Center for Internet and Society at Stanford Law School. "They can still be challenged, but that challenge just became easier for them to win." □

Ag secretary: No guarantee small dairy farms will survive

By **TODD RICHMOND**

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — President Donald Trump's agriculture secretary said Tuesday during a stop in Wisconsin that he doesn't know if the family dairy farm can survive as the industry moves toward a factory farm model.

U.S. Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue told reporters following an appearance at the World Dairy Expo in Madison that it's getting harder for farmers to get by on milking smaller herds.

"In America, the big get bigger and the small go out," Perdue said. "I don't think in America we, for any small business, we have a guaranteed income or guaranteed profitability."

Perdue's visit comes as Wisconsin dairy farmers are wrestling with a host of problems, including declining milk prices, rising suicide rates, the transition to larger farms with hundreds or thousands of animals and Trump's international trade wars.

Wisconsin, which touts itself as America's Dairyland on its license plates, has lost 551 dairy farms in 2019 after losing 638 in 2018 and 465 in 2017, according to data from the state Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection. The Legislature's finance committee voted unanimously last month to spend an additional \$200,000 to help struggling farmers deal with depression and mental health problems.

Jerry Volenec, a fifth generation Wisconsin dairy farmer with 330 cows, left



U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue listens to a question from a Wisconsin farmer during a town hall meeting at the World Dairy Expo in Madison, Wis. Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2019.

Associated Press

the Perdue event feeling discouraged about his future.

"What I heard today from the secretary of agriculture is there's no place for me," Volenec told reporters. "Can I get some support from my state and federal government? I feel like we're a benefit to society." Getting bigger at the expense of smaller operations like his is "not a good way to go," said Darin Von Ruden, president of Wisconsin Farmers Union and a third generation dairy farmer who runs a 50-cow organic farm.

"Do we want one corporation owning all the food in our country?" he said to reporters.

Perdue said he believes the 2018 farm bill should help farmers stay afloat. The bill reauthorizes agriculture and conservation programs at a rough cost of \$400 billion over five years or \$867 billion over 10 years. But he warned that small farms will still struggle to compete.

"It's very difficult on an economy of scale with the capital needs and all the environmental regulations and everything else today to survive milking 40, 50, or 60 or even 100 cows," he said.

Perdue held a town hall meeting with farmers and agricultural groups to kick off the expo. The former Georgia governor seemed

to charm the crowd with his southern accent and jokes about getting swiped in the face by a cow's tail.

Jeff Lyon, general manager for FarmFirst Dairy Cooperative in Madison, asked Perdue for his thoughts on Trump's trade war with China.

Trump's administration has long accused China of unfair trade practices and has imposed escalating rounds of tariffs on Chinese imports to press for concessions. The administration alleges that Beijing steals and forces foreign companies to hand over trade secrets, unfairly subsidizes Chinese companies and engages in cyber-theft of intellectual property. Chi-

na's countermoves have been especially hard on American farmers because they target U.S. agricultural exports.

According to a September analysis by the U.S. Dairy Export Council, U.S. dairy solids exports to China fell by 43 percent overall in the 11 months starting in July 2018, when China enacted the first round of retaliatory tariffs on U.S. dairy products. About 3.7 billion pounds of U.S. farmers' milk had to find other markets during that span, the analysis found.

Chinese leaders have said they're ready to talk but will take whatever steps are necessary to protect their rights.

Perdue responded to Lyon's question by calling the Chinese "cheaters."

"They toyed us into being more dependent on their markets than them on us. That's what the problem has been," he said. "They can't expect to come into our country freely and fairly without opening up their markets."

The secretary said the Trump administration is working to expand other international markets, including targeting India, Thailand, Vietnam, Japan and Malaysia. He said he had expected Congress to ratify a new trade agreement between the United States, Mexico and Canada to replace NAFTA but noted that Washington has been distracted over the last few days, an allusion to impeachment proceedings against Trump ramping up last week. □

Drug stores trying to remove judge from U.S. opioid litigation

By **JULIE CARR SMYTH**

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — A group of drug retailers and distributors asked an Ohio federal appeals court Tuesday to disqualify the judge overseeing national opioid litigation after the judge himself denied their requests.

Walmart, Walgreens, CVS, Rite Aid and drug distributors AmerisourceBergen, McKesson and Cardinal Health told the 6th U.S. Cir-

cuit Court of Appeals in Cincinnati that Cleveland-based U.S. District Judge Dan Polster is not impartial. Polster made the initial ruling on their claim, declining Thursday to remove himself from the massive multidistrict litigation and insisting he has remained neutral.

"Publicly acknowledging this human toll does not suggest I am biased; it shows that I am human," he wrote at the time.

But defense attorneys argued in Tuesday's filing that Polster has been too involved in settlement talks surrounding the more than 2,000 cases in which cities, counties, tribal governments and unions seek damages from the pharmaceutical industry for the national opioid crisis.

"Petitioners do not make this request lightly," they wrote. "But the extraordinary nature and number

of the Judge's actions and comments leave Petitioners no choice. Judge Polster has lost sight of his judicial responsibilities under Article III — neutrality, discretion, and restraint."

A graduate of Harvard Law School, Polster was nominated for the federal bench by Democratic President Bill Clinton. He was confirmed in 1998.

The latest in the dispute over Polster's fitness to pre-

side over the case comes less than three weeks before the first jury trial is set to begin. That bellwether trial is to involve Akron — Ohio's fifth-largest city — and the surrounding Summit County, as well as Cleveland's Cuyahoga County.

The companies said the timing is intentional because they want Polster removed before jury selection begins on Oct. 16, with trial following Oct. 21. □

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Fed-up San Francisco neighbors use rocks to block homeless

By OLGA R. RODRIGUEZ

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) —

A group of San Francisco neighbors said they had to do something to make their street safe. Their answer? Some giant rocks.

Fed up with what they see as the city's failure to combat homelessness and rampant drug use, the neighbors had boulders delivered to their sidewalk to block people from pitching tents on their street.

That started a fight that shows the frustration with an unprecedented homelessness crisis in California. Cities are struggling to address the lack of affordable housing and a growing number of homeless encampments that are popping up on city streets, sometimes in neighborhoods.

"Everyone was so desperate that we decided to team up because this was not a tent or two with homeless people," said John, a neighbor who spoke on the condition he only be identified by his first name because of threats residents have received over the boulders. "These were drug dealers in large tents, and people coming in and out, and people not feeling safe walking to their own home at night."

The boulders went up in an alley off Market Street, one of San Francisco's major thoroughfares. They stopped people from putting up tents for a couple

of weeks, until homeless advocates learned about them and rolled some into the street.

The city stepped in because they posed a safety hazard, hoisting the giant rocks back onto the sidewalk. But the activists returned, pushing them onto the street again.

The tug-of-war appears to have ended this week after neighbors asked the city to remove the rocks, saying they are being harassed with calls, emails and people shouting threats when they leave their homes.

It shows the clash in California over how to curb a growing crisis. While residents want to protect themselves from drug dealing or other safety issues, advocates say there's nowhere else for people to go who have been squeezed out by rising housing prices and income inequality.

"I believe there has to be a better solution than blocking people from using a public sidewalk," Greg Aherne, who was bringing sandwiches and hygiene kits to the homeless, told the San Francisco Chronicle. "The rocks send the wrong message. But it shows how desperate people are."

Los Angeles also is struggling with homelessness, and the owner of a cultural center used a similar approach this summer by erecting massive planters to block people from camping around his build-

ing.

The crisis also has triggered a new fight with President Donald Trump, who accused San Francisco and Los Angeles of failing to clean up waste, including needles, and blamed their liberal policies for the problem. He has said he would do something to fix it but didn't offer specifics.

The mayors of both cities have pushed back on his claims but have said they welcome his help if he contributes federal funding.

In San Francisco, John said that in the last six months, neighbors started reporting dealers armed with knives and guns hiding drugs in planters outside their windows. Their street felt so unsafe that he and his wife would meet their guests at a grocery store nearby and walk them to their house, he said.

John said about 40 neighbors chipped in to buy the boulders after calling the city and police dozens of times. He said they asked the city to remove the rocks after the harassment started.

City workers removed the boulders Monday and are storing them while the neighbors decide what to do, Public Works Director Mohammed Nuru said Tuesday.

"Nobody wants drug dealers across the street from their homes, and the city has a responsibility to partner with neighbors to make



In this Monday, Sept. 30, 2019, photo, a San Francisco Public Works crew removes boulders from a sidewalk along a street in San Francisco, Monday, Sept. 30, 2019. In this Monday, Sept. 30, 2019, photo, a San Francisco Public Works crew removes boulders from a sidewalk along a street in San Francisco, Monday, Sept. 30, 2019.

Associated Press

sure they have a clean and safe neighborhood," Nuru said.

He said the neighbors did not have a permit for the boulders and agreed to work with the city in the future.

Despite a \$12.3 billion annual budget, San Francisco has long struggled to house homeless people and keep streets clean of human waste and needles, especially in districts with many people who are homeless or addicted to drugs.

The city set up public toilets and announced formation of a team last year to clean up human waste. It says there are at least 1,000 people on a waiting list for shelter beds on any given day.

In Los Angeles, figures released in June showed a 16% jump in its homeless population over the last year, to 36,300 people — the size of a small city.

Peter Mozgo, who runs the Hungarian Cultural Center in downtown Los Angeles, had become so frustrated with losing business because of the rows of tents along the perimeter of the building that he set up about 140 planters on the sidewalk to prevent homeless people from camping. "We lost so much weddings because people don't want to rent it anymore," Mozgo told the Los Angeles Times.

He didn't return a message seeking comment Tuesday. □

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Moment of truth: UK to submit 'final offer' for Brexit deal



Britain's Prime Minister Boris Johnson rushes through the rain during the Conservative Party Conference in Manchester, England, Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2019. Britain's Prime Minister Boris Johnson rushes through the rain during the Conservative Party Conference in Manchester, England, Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2019.

Associated Press

By JILL LAWLESS

Associated Press

MANCHESTER, England (AP)

— After months of Brexit stalemate, Britain is finally about to play its hand, setting out Prime Minister Boris Johnson's "final offer" for a last-minute divorce deal with the European Union.

It's a crucial moment for the embattled leader, who is faced with a skeptical EU, a divided U.K. and a supportive but worried Conservative Party. The party that chose Johnson as its leader in July is mostly — but not unanimously — rallying behind a politician whose drive and energy have been stained by allegations of improper behavior and divisive political tactics.

The government said Johnson would send the formal proposals to EU leaders in Brussels on Wednesday after he rallies his party with a conference speech in Manchester, northwest

England.

Johnson's office said the prime minister will call the proposals a "fair and reasonable compromise" but also a final offer, and say that if the EU does not agree to discuss it, Britain would refuse to negotiate further.

"Let's get Brexit done -- we can, we must and we will," he planned to say.

Advance extracts of Johnson's speech released by his office did not reveal the contents of the proposed deal, leaving an impatient EU to wait a little longer.

Britain is due to leave the 28-nation bloc in just 30 days, and EU leaders are frustrated with the government's failure thus far to set out detailed plans for maintaining an open border between the U.K.'s Northern Ireland and EU member Ireland — the key sticking point to a deal.

Johnson says Britain will leave the EU on the sched-

uled Oct. 31 date with or without a deal, despite a law passed by Parliament that compels the government to seek a delay to Brexit if it can't get a deal by Oct. 19.

A Brexit agreement between the EU and his predecessor, Theresa May, was rejected three times by the U.K. Parliament, largely because of opposition to the "backstop," an insurance policy designed to ensure there is no return to customs posts or other infrastructure on the Irish border.

An open border underpins both the local economy and Northern Ireland's peace process. But British Brexit supporters oppose the backstop because it would keep the U.K. tightly bound to EU trade rules in order to avoid customs checks — limiting the country's ability to strike new trade deals around the world.

So far, the U.K. has floated the idea of a common area for livestock and agricultural products, plus largely untested "technological solutions" as a replacement for the backstop. The EU says that is inadequate. Ireland has already rejected an idea raised in preliminary U.K. proposals for customs posts five to 10 miles (eight to 16 kilometers) away from the border.

Johnson said Britain would not propose that idea, but added that it was a "reality" that some checks would be needed to create a "single customs territory" for the U.K.

He said checks could be conducted away from the border, possibly at either

end of a shipment's journey.

"That I don't think will be onerous, it certainly wouldn't involve infrastructure," he told Sky News.

That still falls short of the seamless border that exists today. Irish Prime Minister Leo Varadkar said that under May, the U.K. government "promised no hard border or associated controls or checks and we expect the British government to honor that promise."

"People here don't want a customs border between north and south and no British government should seek to impose customs posts against the will of the people on the island of Ireland," he said in the Irish parliament.

Johnson insists he wants to strike a deal with the EU to replace May's rejected Brexit agreement. He also says the U.K. can handle any bumps that come from tumbling out of the bloc without a deal, which would mean the instant imposition of customs checks and other barriers between Britain and the EU, its biggest trading partner.

But the U.K. government and businesses say the disruptions would be substantial.

Trade Minister George Freeman told delegates at the Conservative conference that "if we leave without a deal, it's going to be very bumpy." He said the flow of trade across the Channel between the English port of Dover and the French port of Calais — the U.K.'s most important trade route — could be cut in half as customs and vehicle checks were introduced.

At the annual conference, Johnson is attempting to energize his party with all the bold policies he says the government will deliver once the U.K. manages to "Get Brexit Done" — from more money for police, roads and housing to a big hike in the minimum wage. Tuesday's big theme, law and order, was slightly undermined when a Conservative lawmaker was ejected from the conference over an altercation that saw police swoop on a convention center lounge. The costly policy promises, which break with a decade of deficit-slashing austerity by Johnson's Conservative predecessors, are also designed to appeal to voters in a national election that looks likely to be called within weeks.

But he is dogged by allegations that he handed out perks to a female friend's business while he was mayor of London and groped the thigh of a female journalist at a lunch two decades ago. Johnson denies impropriety in both cases — though said Tuesday that he couldn't remember the lunch in question.

He also suggested the allegations against him might be motivated by political opponents trying "to knock the government off course." Johnson is popular with many Conservative members, who welcome his energy and optimism after three years of Brexit gridlock under May. Some, though, have qualms about his personal conduct and his divisive tactics, which include using words like "surrender" and "betrayal" about opponents of Brexit. □

Angry Dutch farmers descend on The Hague to demand respect

By MIKE CORDER
Associated Press

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP) — Thousands of Dutch farmers massed in The Hague on Tuesday to demand more respect for their profession, many after driving in slow-moving tractor convoys that snarled traffic around the country. Farmers staged a national day of protest as the Netherlands wrestles with efforts to drastically reduce emissions of greenhouse gases. A broad package of measures includes a plan to grant financial aid to farmers who want to cease operations or adopt more sustainable agriculture practices. There is a lot at stake: According to the Dutch farmers' organization, LTO, exports from the Netherlands' nearly 54,000 farms and agriculture businesses were worth 90.3 billion euros (\$98.3 billion) last year.

Among the farmers' demands are that the government does not further reduce the number of animals they can keep and for an "independent party" to measure the carbon and nitrogen emissions that farms produce.

"This is about our families, our future, the future of our children. It's about our way of life," sheep farmer Bart Kemp, one of the protest's organizers, told the crowd gathered in the Hague. In an emotional speech, Kemp said lawmakers "miss the common sense - farmer's sense - that nature and animals teach us." He appealed for a "new era in which the food producers of the Netherlands are listened to" by lawmakers.

Organizers said on a website for the demonstration they also wanted to counter a "negative image" farming and farmers have in the Netherlands.

They said, "we are not animal abusers and environment polluters. We have a heart for our businesses."

One of the partner parties in the country's ruling coalition recently proposed a 50% reduction in the number of animals allowed on farms as a way to cut nitrogen emissions.

Agriculture Minister Carola Schouten said no such reduction would take place as long as she held her post. She pledged to listen to the farmers' other concerns.

"We are working for a strong agricultural sector with an eye on a healthy environment," Schouten told the farmers.

The Dutch motorists association, ANWB, reported that Tuesday was the busiest ever morning on the nation's roads, with more than 1,000 kilometers (620 miles) of traffic jams blamed on convoys of tractors, bad weather and accidents.



Tractors are lined up during a protest in The Hague, Netherlands, Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2019, as thousands of Dutch farmers headed to The Hague on Tuesday, many driving in slow-moving convoys of tractors that snarled traffic in the morning rush hour, for a national day of protest to demand more respect for their profession.

Associated Press

Some farmers avoided the traffic by driving their tractors along the North Sea beach to The Hague. Others set off in the early hours of the morning and waited, honking their tractors' horns, in long lines to get into the city. Police sealed off roads heading into The Hague's historic center and arrested at least one farmer for driving his tractor through a metal fence surrounding

the protest site and a second for allegedly interfering with the arrest.

Cattle farmer Peter Boogards drove his tractor from the nearby village of Wassenaar to express his anger. "We're the only sector that has managed to reduce phosphate production by 20%," he said. "Nobody listens to us, while we stick to agreements. We don't like that." □

Slain Saudi writer's fiancée says prince must give answers

Associated Press

ISTANBUL (AP) — The fiancée of slain Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi said Tuesday that Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman has a duty to answer questions now that he has accepted responsibility for the killing inside the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul last year. Hatice Cengiz told The Associated Press she is apprehensive about returning to the site Wednesday for a ceremony marking the anniversary of Khashoggi's death, but takes strength knowing she won't be alone this time. Cengiz waited outside the consulate last year on Oct. 2 as Khashoggi entered to collect documents needed to marry her. He never re-emerged. The Washington Post columnist, who wrote critically about the prince, was killed by agents of the Saudi government who apparently dismembered his body, which has never been found.

A vigil is scheduled to be held outside the consulate building Wednesday, starting at 1:14 p.m. (1014 GMT) marking the time Jamal walked into the building.

"I am feeling anxiety, fear and strange things that I cannot express," she said about returning to the consulate building. "Last year, I was waiting for Jamal on my own. This year the whole world will be waiting with me for Jamal — but we will be waiting for justice for Jamal."

Earlier this week, Prince Mohammed said in a television interview that he takes "full responsibility" for Khashoggi's death, but denied allegations that he ordered the killing.

Cengiz said the prince's words were likely made to "weaken" public pressure over the death in the run up to the anniversary. She added, however, that if the prince was sincere, then "we would have the right to ask him about the details." □

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Hong Kong protester shot as China marks its 70th anniversary

Associated Press

HONG KONG (AP) — In a fearsome escalation of violence, Hong Kong police shot a protester in the chest at close range Tuesday, leaving the teenager bleeding and howling on the ground. Tens of thousands joined anti-government demonstrations that spread across the semi-autonomous Chinese territory in a challenge to Beijing's dominance as the Communist Party celebrated 70 years in power.

The officer fired the single pistol shot as protesters swarmed toward him, Police Commissioner Stephen Lo said, hitting the 18-year-old on the left side of his chest. Lo defended the action as "reasonable and lawful," saying the officer feared for his life and had no other choice.

Hong Kong's hospital authority said the teen was one of two people in critical condition, with a total of 66 injured as fierce clashes between protesters and police wracked China's freest and most international city.

While officers have fired warning shots in the air on multiple occasions during months of unrest, this was the first time a protester has been struck by gunfire. The shooting marked a dramatic surge in violence that spread chaos to multiple areas.

Lo said there was no order for police to shoot if they are under threat but they can use appropriate force. He described protesters as "rioters," saying they have committed widespread criminal acts — from attacking police officers, including 25 who were injured, to destroying public property and vandalizing shops and banks linked to China.

"The officer was under at-



Associated Press

tack, his life was threatened. ... He made a very quick decision and shot the assailant. I believe it was his best judgment at the time," Lo said.

He added that although the officer also had a rifle for rubber bullets, the event unfolded very quickly. He didn't answer questions on why the officer fired at the teen's chest and not his limbs.

Apart from the incident in Tsuen Wan, where the teen was shot, he said officers also fired five warning shots in four other areas, although no one was injured. Police arrested more than 180 protesters, he added. Local TV stations showed two officers with bloodied faces pointing pistols at protesters who sought to spoil the Oct. 1 anniversary of Communist rule fought pitched battles with riot police.

Video that spread quickly on social media appeared to show the officer opening fire as the masked teenager came at him with a metal rod, striking the of-

ficer's shooting arm. Taken by the City University Student Union, it showed a dozen black-clad protesters throwing objects at a group of police and closing in on the lone officer who pointed his gun and opened fire. The protester toppled backward onto the street, bleeding from below his left shoulder.

As another protester rushed in to try to drag away the wounded youth and was tackled by an officer, a gasoline bomb landed in the middle of the group of officers in an explosion of flames.

"Whilst there is no excuse for violence, the use of live ammunition is disproportionate, and only risks inflaming the situation," U.K. Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab said of the protests in the former British colony that returned to Chinese rule in 1997.

Riot police fired tear gas in at least six locations and used water cannons in the business district as usually bustling streets became battlefields. Determined to

thumb their noses at Chinese President Xi Jinping, protesters ignored a security clampdown that saw nearly four dozen subway stations closed.

Chanting anti-China slogans and "Freedom for Hong Kong," the dense crowd dressed in mournful black snaked for over a mile (1.6 kilometers) along a broad thoroughfare downtown in defiance of a police ban. Some carried Chinese flags defaced with a black cross. Organizers said at least 100,000 people marched in the biggest rally Tuesday. Police didn't give an estimate.

"They are squeezing our necks so we don't breathe the air of freedom," said King Chan, a 57-year-old homemaker who marched with her husband.

Demonstrators tossed wads of fake bank notes usually used at funerals into the air. "The leaders who won't listen to our voice, this is for them," said marcher Ray Luk.

Thousand others confronted police across the city, the largest number of simultaneous protests since the unrest began in early June over a now-shelved extradition bill that activists say was an example of how Hong Kong's freedoms and citizen rights are being eroded. The movement has since grown into an an-

ti-Chinese campaign with demands for direct elections for the city's leaders and police accountability. The smell of stinging tear gas and smoke from street fires started by protesters engulfed the Wan Chai, Wong Tai Sin, Sha Tin, Tuen Mun, Tsuen Wan and Tsim Sha Tsui areas. Protesters used power tools to fashion bricks into missiles and came armed with gas bombs. Police said protesters used corrosive fluid in Tuen Mun, injuring officers and some reporters.

A water cannon truck sprayed blue water, used to identify protesters, to disperse crowds from advancing to government offices.

"Today we are out to tell the Communist Party that Hong Kong people have nothing to celebrate," said activist Lee Cheuk-yan as he led the downtown march. "We are mourning that in 70 years of Communist Party rule, the democratic rights of people in Hong Kong and China are being denied."

Activists carried banners saying, "End dictatorial rule, return power to the people."

As protesters hoped, the chaos in Hong Kong contrasted with anniversary festivities in Beijing, which included a muscular parade of military might. Among those attending was Hong Kong Chief Executive Carrie Lam, whose leadership during the crisis has made her a hate-figure for many protesters.

As the city's government marked the anniversary with a solemn morning ceremony, police used pepper spray to break up a brief scuffle between Beijing supporters and a small group of pro-democracy protesters.

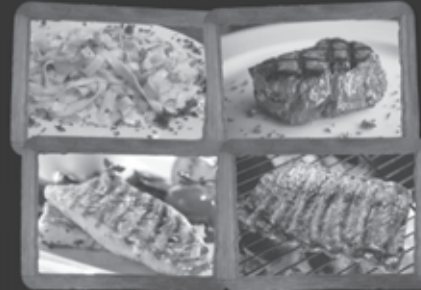
Hong Kong Chief Secretary Matthew Cheung told hundreds of guests at a reception that the city has become "unrecognizable" due to the violence. Cheung said Beijing fully supports the "one country, two systems" framework that gives Hong Kong freedoms and rights not enjoyed on the mainland. □



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North Korea fires projectiles days before resuming U.S. talks

By TONG-HYUNG KIM
Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) —

North Korea fired projectiles toward its eastern sea Wednesday, South Korea's military and Japan's government said, in an apparent display of its expanding military capabilities ahead of planned nuclear negotiations with the United States this weekend.

South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff did not immediately confirm what the weapons were, how many were fired or how far they flew.

But Japanese Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga said the North fired two ballistic missiles from the country's east coast, and one of them appeared to have landed inside Japan's exclusive economic zone off its northwestern coast. There were no reports of damage to Japanese vessels or aircraft traveling in the area, he said. The North had not fired a weapon that reached inside Japan's EEZ since November 2017 at the height of an unusually provocative run in nuclear and missile tests. Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe condemned the launches and said they violate U.N. resolutions against the North.

"We will continue to cooperate with the U.S. and the international community and do the utmost to maintain and protect the safety of the people as we stay on alert," Abe said.

The launches, which were the North's ninth round of weapons tests since late July, came hours after a senior North Korean diplomat

said North Korea and the United States have agreed to resume working-level nuclear negotiations this weekend.

After supervising a testing firing of what the North described as a "newly developed super-large multiple rocket launcher" last month, North Korean leader Kim Jong Un was quoted by state media as saying that the system would require a "running fire test" to complete its development. North Korea could also be demonstrating its displeasure over South Korea displaying for the first time some of its newly purchased U.S.-made F-35 stealth fighter jets at its Armed Forces Day ceremony on Tuesday. The North has called the F-35 purchases a grave provocation that violate recent inter-Korean agreements aimed at lowering military tensions.

Kim Dong-yub, an analyst from Seoul's Institute for Far Eastern Studies and a former military official who participated in inter-Korean military talks, said the North's launch was clearly aimed at increasing pressure on Washington ahead of planned weekend talks where it might demand concessions on U.S.-led sanctions against its crippled economy.

Nuclear negotiations halted following a February summit between Kim Jong Un and President Donald Trump in Vietnam that broke down after the U.S. rejected North Korean demands for broad sanctions relief in exchange for par-



People watch a TV showing a file image of North Korea's missile launch during a news program at the Seoul Railway Station in Seoul, South Korea, Wednesday, Oct. 2, 2019.

Associated Press

tially surrendering its nuclear capabilities.

North Korea's subsequent belligerent rhetoric and recent short-range weapons tests have been seen as an attempt to gain leverage before resuming the negotiations.

In a statement released through state media, Choe Son Hui, North Korea's first vice minister of foreign affairs, said the two nations will have preliminary contact on Friday before holding working-level talks on Saturday. She did not say where it would take place. "It is my expectation that the working-level negotiations would accelerate the positive development of the DPRK-U.S. relations," Choe said in the statement, using an abbreviation for North Korea's formal name, the Democratic People's

Republic of Korea.

State Department spokeswoman Morgan Ortagus, who is traveling with Secretary of State Mike Pompeo in Rome, said later she did not have further details to share about the meeting. Last month, North Korea praised Trump for suggesting Washington may pursue an unspecified "new method" in the negotiations. North Korea also has welcomed Trump's decision to fire hawkish former National Security Adviser John Bolton, who advocated a "Libya model" of unilateral denuclearization as a template for North Korea. The 2004 disarmament of Libya is seen by North Korea as a deeply provocative comparison because Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi was killed following U.S.-supported military

action in his country seven years after giving up a rudimentary nuclear program that was far less advanced than North Korea's.

The office of South Korean President Moon Jae-in, who lobbied hard to set up the first summit between Kim and Trump last year in Singapore, welcomed Choe's announcement and expressed hope the resumed talks would result in "substantial progress" in denuclearization and peace. That could be a tall order. The diplomacy between Trump and Kim has been driven chiefly by their personalities rather than an established diplomatic process, and working-level meetings have fleshed out the logistics of summits without bringing the countries closer to any nuclear agreement. □

Peru thrown into constitutional crisis amid power struggle

By **FRANKLIN BRICEÑO** and **CHRISTINE ARMARIO**

LIMA, Peru (AP) — A bitter struggle between Peru's president and congress over who will govern the South American country threatened to become a lengthy and destabilizing legal battle as each side dug in Tuesday amid the deepest constitutional crisis in nearly three decades.

President Martin Vizcarra dissolved the opposition-controlled congress and called new elections on Monday, saying the step was needed to uproot the nation's endemic corruption. Defiant opposition lawmakers voted to suspend him from office and appointed a vice president who recently broke ranks in his place.

The 35-member Organization of American States on Tuesday urged Peru's Constitutional Tribunal to weigh in on the feud as both sides accused the other of abusing power and jeopardizing the nation's stability.

The military and governors stood by Vizcarra while several private business coalitions announced they would back Mercedes Aráoz, who legislators swore into office late Monday night as the country's rightful chief of state.

"It seems we are facing a protracted political crisis, with the dispute potentially ending up before courts," said Maria Luisa Puig, an analyst for the Eurasia Group consultancy.

For now, Peruvians appeared overwhelmingly in favor of Vizcarra's decision, but the events nonetheless could threaten to fuel social unrest. Vizcarra is likely to continue governing as president while any challenge from the opposition works its way through court. He has already called for new legislative elections in early 2020.

But if congress prevails, lawmakers would be entitled to stay in their posts till 2021, calling off Vizcarra's elections and likely moving to impeach him, all moves that could irritate an already angry public with little to no faith in elected



Associated Press

leaders.

Teresa Tintaya was among a handful of protesters outside congress Tuesday yelling phrases like, "Garbage congress, the people hate you!"

"President Vizcarra is a brave man," she said.

Even before the turmoil, the nation was already on shaky political ground. Nearly every living former president has been ensnared in the mammoth Odebrecht corruption scandal, in which the Brazilian construction heavyweight admitted to funneling money to politicians around Latin America in exchange for handsome public works contracts.

Lower-ranking but still powerful judges, lawmakers and businessmen have been caught on wiretaps negotiating backroom deals, leading many Peruvians to conclude that no branch of their country's turbulent government can be trusted.

Vizcarra rose to power last year after President Pedro Pablo Kuczynski resigned in relation to the Odebrecht probe and made defeating corruption his signature drive. He has succeeded where his predecessor failed in gaining the public's support, but repeatedly clashed with congress ruled by opposition leader Keiko Fujimori's party.

Under Peru's law, Vizcarra is entitled to dissolve congress if it rejects two votes of confidence in his ad-

ministration. Whether or not two such votes have taken place is at the crux of the conflict between the executive and legislative branches.

Vizcarra contends a rejection vote during Kuczynski's administration counts as the first because he is continuing his predecessor's mandate. He argues that the second happened Monday when lawmakers proceeded with a vote to select new Constitutional Tribunal magistrates, defying his warning that he would interpret it as a vote against confidence.

Almost simultaneously, opposition lawmakers rushed to approve a vote of confidence that they say in effect inhibits Vizcarra from closing congress.

Pedro Olaechea, president of the dissolved legislature, said Tuesday that he and others believe the president's act was a "new sort of coup." He said lawmakers are deciding how to proceed but that what is likely to follow will be a "lengthy, tedious and delicate legal matter."

"The event we are living will generate much uncertainty," he said.

The OAS, in its statement, said the Constitutional Tribunal, the same institution at the center of the feud, should decide on the legality of Vizcarra's action, but the regional body also characterized the call for new elections as a "con-

structive step."

"It's appropriate for the political polarization the country is suffering from be resolved by the people at the polls," the organization said.

The Constitutional Tribunal is expected to decide several important cases in the months ahead, including a habeas corpus request to free Fujimori, who is being held as prosecutors investigate her for allegedly laundering money from Odebrecht.

Though the terms for all six

magistrates had expired, Vizcarra, legal observers and human rights groups criticized the congressional action for its speed and lack of transparency. The newspaper *El Comercio* reported Monday that six of the candidates up for consideration are facing potential criminal or civil charges for offenses including kidnapping, extortion and sex abuse.

By law, congress is responsible for appointing the new judges, a stipulation that Vizcarra contends fuels political conflict.

The one magistrate selected by lawmakers Monday before congress suspended voting is a relative of the head of the legislature. It is still unclear whether the newly appointed judge might take his seat and if so who he would replace and how that might change the balance of the tribunal.

Rigoberto Cueva, who was demonstrating in favor of Vizcarra on Tuesday, said that whatever happens in court, it is clear what the public is clamoring for.

"It's not Vizcarra who has won here, it's the people," he said. "And the people have been demanding that congress be closed." □

Amazon fires fall sharply in September, spread elsewhere

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — The number of fires has declined sharply in Brazil's Amazon region in July and August, but state environmental workers say the fight continues as officials still promote economic development in protected natural areas. Fires in the Amazon went down 35.5% in September compared to August, with 19,925 fires, according to data published Tuesday by the National Institute for Space Research.

Official data going back to 1998 show that historically, September tends to have more fires than August. Fire is regularly used to clear land by ranchers and farm-

ers as well as illegal loggers and miners.

But in July and August, parts of the Amazon burned at a pace unseen since 2010, fueling global worries about climate change.

Scientists say the vast rainforest is a bulwark against global warming, as its lush vegetation absorbs heat-trapping carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. The moisture given off by its trees also affects rainfall patterns and climate across South America and beyond. International outcry led President Jair Bolsonaro to ban fires in the Amazon for 60 days and send federal troops to help combat the blazes. □

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PALM BEACH — Doctor Lili Beke from the Walk-In Clinic has a solid reputation, built up in more than 35 years of experience as a medical doctor. Both tourists and locals feel great with her for the simple reasons that she has the qualities of a great doctor: communicative, skilled, empathetic and trustworthy. Unique is the fact that you can walk into this clinic without an appointment and that the Palm Beach Service Pharmacy she partners up with is literally next door. When you feel sick during vacation you want this out of your system as soon as possible and a convenient solution is forehanded. Don't look any further, help is just around the corner. A one-stop-shopping solution.

Top 5 Vacation Illnesses

The most common reasons why patients walk into her clinic sound very familiar. Doctor Beke: "When on vacation you are excited so you mix meals, eat without control and combine this with more alcohol than usual resulting in an upset stomach. Digestion issues occur and when on a diet you can count on it that you will get sick." Throwing up, diarrhea, dehydration will be a bummer on your vacation. "Second occasion why people step in here is medication. They feel sick because they forgot to take their medicines with them or simply think they don't need it on holiday. But of course the body does not work differently only because you are in another place." This happens especially with patients of higher age and many times with blood pressure medication and psychological medicines, the doctor explains. "As we have the pharmacy next door we can solve this in most cases very quick so you will soon feel better again. Then of course we have the allergies, force majeure but still a hassle. Too much sun bathing is another thing causing dehydration and sun burns."

"I strongly advise to buy a new sunblock cream every vacation. Our pharmacy sells the most advanced ones that is environmental friendly, so not damaging the sea life." As fifth most common reason for patients to come see the doctor she mentions exhaustion. "You want to do everything in a short time and by the end of the day the body is exhausted, giving a reversed reaction. Take it easy please, moderate or like we say here: chill." Besides this top 5 the doctor is visited by patients with chronic diseases that often contact her in advance to travelling.

The Little Ones

With regards to children Dr. Beke advises parents to keep an extra eye on them during vacation. "They are excited, cannot hold control, play all day in the sand and pool and eat a lot of different things.

But they are sensitive and you do not want your loved ones waking up in the middle of the night vomiting or with diarrhea." Asthmatic children should be taken care of extra as the sun, water and strong draft on the island can complicate their condition. "Protect the heads of your kids, we are close to the equator and the sun rays are more rectangular thus stronger. The heat and humidity can exhaust the little bodies easily. Let them play under an umbrella preferably and keep drinking water. At the pharmacy you can buy ear plugs to prevent ear infections." The doctor stresses that there is no doubt about drinking tap water. "The water of Aruba is the best. You can drink that without problems. It is excellent. In the States it is prepared with a lot of chemicals, but here it's clean."

Locals

Doctor Beke has a loyal local patient pool staying with her mainly because of the experience and trust. "They tell me I really listen to them, they feel attended and respected. A patient is a human being, not a casus, unfortunately many times doctors are skilled in the medical part but not on the social terrain." The latter is more and more important, especially with certain groups like teenage girls. "They prefer a female doctor to treat typical woman issues. The desire is attention and to feel at ease." Patients step in for second opinions too. "Everybody has the right to do that, it is their body and their money."

Pharmacy Convenience

After you pick up your prescription at Dr. Beke's practice, you can go to the Palm Beach Service Pharmacy, right next door. The collaboration between these two results in a quick, efficient and quality service. It's just what you need when you feel the only thing you want is healing. Lennert van der Poel, general manager of the pharmacy, which is part of a group of 5 pharmacies (Botica di Servicio), points out that convenience is not

their only unique asset. "We carry a wide variety of medicines from the US, but most of the medicines come from the EU. The prices in the EU are considerably lower than in the U.S." All medicines are European registered with the same standard as U.S. products. "The law in the States allows visitors to get prescribed medicine by a local doctor for up to 6 months, saving them a ton of money.", says van der Poel. Most common medicines requested by visitors are antibiotic, pain killers and anti-allergy medications. However, certain things do not need prescription, such as contact lenses. These don't need a prescription to get them on the island. "We've recently started importing our own 'house brand' of contact lenses called 'Optinova', and the feedback has been amazing", elaborates Van der Poel, "We carry both daily and monthly lenses, which are an ideal substitute if you forget yours when coming on vacation, or even if you would like to take some home, which is why we've seen so many return customers." Naturally we wish you the healthiest, most wonderful vacation of your life on our Happy Island. But In case you are in need of a doctor and a pharmacy, just turn around, walk in and feel welcome to be cured! ☑



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or +297 594 0539 (emergency)
lgbeke.md@gmail.com
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Tierra del Sol Restaurant gets Incredible Makeover



NOORD — The Restaurant at Tierra del Sol will create a whole new look just for you! For that reason the restaurant will be closed for renovations which is due to be ready beginning of December. Do not worry to miss out on the delicious food though because lunch and early dinner can daily be enjoyed at the 19th Hole Bar at the pool from 11:00 AM to 8:00 PM.

In case you are a golf fanatic, playing on Tierra del Sol's 18th hole course is a must. The ONLY 18th hole golf course on this island has a uniqueness that is the reason to visit it. Added to that is an overwhelming nature and outstanding service. There is no way you can miss out on this experience.

Imagine: a drive to the North end of the island where you encounter the island's rugged north coast and Blue Ocean forming your panoramic from a masterfully sculpted 18 beautiful holes of championship golf by Robert Trent Jones II. Your play field combines the elements of wind, sea, and earth in perfect harmony. You may even encounter goats and the local burrowing owls named 'shocos'. Welcome to nature, welcome to the greatness of a new experience.

After Game Delight

You can play your round of golf and then head to the 19th Hole bar at the pool for a nice relaxing lunch. Not a golfer? No problem. The food at Tierra del Sol stands out and is yet a reason to hop into your car and drive to that perfect picture landscape where the chef will pamper your tasting buds.

Testimonials

"Awesome golf course. Had a blast!!"



"Wonderful golf and you will see goats on the course. You may be fortunate and see Shoco owl. Just know it will be very very windy. ☐"

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Colorful musician plays world of music

PALM BEACH — You might bump into him while he is performing at one of the resorts of Aruba and enchants you with his voice. He is a world musician who has travelled the globe and picked up the influences that different cultures bring you. He started playing guitar with 11 years old, inspired by his father who was an Italian violin maker. Let us introduce to you: Ernesto Ferro.

Ferro was influenced by rock music from 70's bands like Queen, Deep Purple, Led Zepplin, Kiss, Alice Cooper and more but also by flamenco music from Paco de Lucia as well

as classic music composed by Mozart, Vivaldi and Handel. "I like to listen to good music that is rich in beautiful melodies and harmonies." His musical career started in Venezuela in Valencia City where he worked for ten years with a heavy metal band named Gillman. "My first composition was 'Wake up and Fight' and part of a compilation of others top bands from the 80s era like Iron Maiden, Motley Crue, Quiet Riot, Twist Sister, Queensryche, Dokken and Helix. The band was asked to be part of a Venezuela soup opera for about five months to push the sale of one of the albums and also we appeared on a film production movie production



name Innocencia Mortal." He has lived for a while in Milano and after moved to Aruba where he was contracted to do the background music for a TV production company. He brought more than a dozen musicians to Aruba to be part of a mayor production using music of the band Queen for a International Wine & Food Festival. California and New York were his next homes where he performed as a soloist before coming back to Aruba again in 2010. But not before one of his dreams came true. "I played a show guitar duet with Johnny Farina who is the composer of my favorite instrumental song from the 50s Sleepwalk. He is a Grammy Winner, in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and the song is in more than 32 Hollywood movies since 1959." Now he is back on our dushi island. "All what I have to say is that music has been and is part of my life."

Today Ferro can be listened to at Las Ramblas restaurant at La Cabana Beach Resort, Passions on the Beach restaurant at Amsterdam Manor hotel, Champions Sport bar at the Marriott Ocean Club and Che Bar located at the mall Paseo Herencia. ☐



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The Aruba Tourism Authority honor loyal visitors on the island

EAGLE BEACH — Recently, Ms. Darline S. de Cuba had the great pleasure to honor a Loyal and friendly visitors of Aruba as Goodwill Ambassadors at their home away from home. The symbolic honorary title is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism, as a token of appreciation to the guests who visit Aruba between 10-20-35 and more consecutive years.

The honorees were: **Mr. Andres & Louise Abeal** residents of New Jersey who have been coming to the island for 33 years consecutively.

Ms. Darline S. de Cuba thanked them for choosing Aruba as their vacation destination and as their home away from home for so many years together with the members of Aruba Beach Club.

Main reasons for returning to the island provided by the honorees were: The warm inviting sun, the gracious treatment from everyone, the absolute feeling of safety everywhere/anytime and the unending selection of Restaurants



Aruba's Nature is to be Cherished



ST. CRUZ — The national park Arikok comprises almost 18 % of the island. Its rugged terrain, desert-like hills filled with tall cacti, breathtaking coastline and protected local flora and

fauna welcome you to be explored. There is numerous wildlife to discover like for example the sea turtle who lays his eggs on the park's beaches. There are more places on the island

that are a preserved area like the Bubali Plas which is a bird sanctuary.

The national park Arikok takes you on a memorable journey of the islands past



offering unique geological, cultural and historical sites. These can all be enjoyed and explored either on your own or during guided tours. A wide variety of educational and informative programs and fun activities is available.

Did you know that four of the in total seven species of sea turtle lay their eggs on Aruba's beaches? In the national park, a Least Tern (*Sternula antillarum*) keeps a strict eye on a very special event taking place below on the beach: a majestic Leatherback (*Dermochelys coriacea*) heads back to sea after laying her eggs, while another nest laid 2 months ago by the same female hatches. A very rare occurrence of daytime nesting and hatching. Sea turtles prefer nesting in the cool and dark hours of the night. And hatchlings usually wait for the cue of cooling surface sand before emerging.

Bubali Magic

This beautiful close-up image of the pink bird is courtesy of Michiel Oversteegen of the Aruba Birdlife Conservation. This important foundation showcases and builds awareness of Aruba's birds and other native flora and fauna. You may have seen a 'pink cloud' lately at the Bubali or Spanish Lagoon Wetlands areas? It's most likely to be Roseate Spoonbills

(*Ajaia ajaia*) or 'Chucharon Cora' as they are known in Papiamentu. This unusual looking bird forages in shallow muddy water while sweeping its flattened bill from side to side to catch small fish, crustaceans and other aquatic invertebrates. The Roseate Spoonbill remains an uncommon sight as they are vulnerable to degradation of feeding and nesting habitats (Wetlands). (Source: arikok national park)

The affore mentioned is just a part of what Aruba's nature has to offer. We cannot stress enough to go, see for yourself. The island has the most beautiful beaches but it is also worthwhile to go beyond this and get an idea of our entire island. Lately there is a discussion going on about the effect certain activities have on our nature, for example the ATV vehicles cause a lot of dust, noise and leave tire tracks. Animals live in these areas where the vehicles run, often with high speed and with detrimental consequences to flora and fauna. Motorized vehicles are forbidden to drive on the sand dunes in the Northern part of the island and all beaches in Aruba are forbidden for any motorized vehicle. Treasure our island to enjoy it like you do: as a tropical and natural paradise. We truly appreciate it! □

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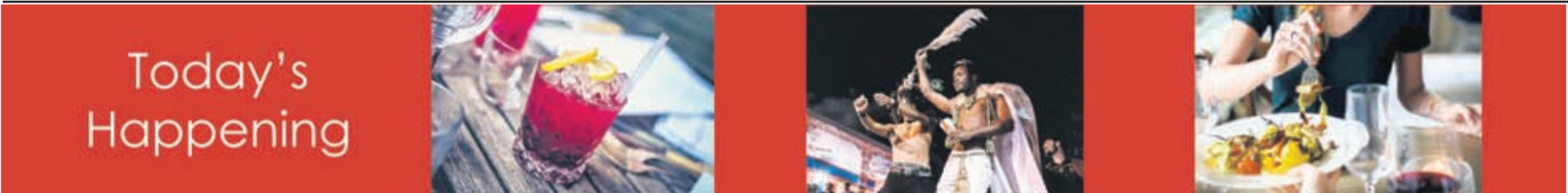
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A weekly calendar with a selection of what's going on in Aruba

Wednesday 2

SDG Breakout Session #3

- Seeing the importance to reach targets by 2030, it is imperative that we all unite to make Aruba a more Sustainable Island. Let's talk how responsible consumption and production can help us fight against climate change #SDG12 and what this means for all life on land #SDG15.
- 6:30 PM– 9:30 PM
- BAZ-RRR Galleria & Brasserie, Emma Straat #3, oranejstad
- Facebook BAZ-RRR Galleria & Brasserie



Sunday 6

Eat Local Aruba at Casa Nonna

- Savor a variety of flavored-filled dining experience specially crafted by our culinary talent, during Eat Local Aruba Restaurant week.
- Casa Nonna Our tribute to authentic flavors and quality ingredients that are the hallmark of true Italian cuisine.
- 9 PM – 10 PM
 - The Ritz-Carlton, Aruba
 - Facebook The Ritz-Carlton, Aruba



Thursday 3

Barefoot Beach BBQ

- If you're not barefoot, then you're overdressed. Join us for the Barefoot Beach BBQ on the Renaissance Ocean Suites Beach! A delicious BBQ made to order will be prepared for you accompanied by a build your own salad station, your choice of marinate, side dishes and a decadent dessert station. Have some Family Fun around the grill with live music and a Beach Bar ready to serve you.
- 6 PM – 10 PM
- Renaissance Ocean Suites Beach
- Facebook Renaissance Aruba resort & Casino



Monday 7

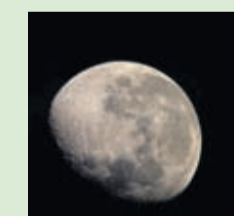
Carnival Night at Eagle Aruba

- Dance the night away with live steel pan music and a spectacular carnival show. Experience some delicious local dishes and take home hand crafted artifacts.
- From 6:00 PM-8:00 PM
- Eagle Aruba Resort Courtyard
- Facebook Eagle Aruba Resort & Casino

Friday 4

Strongest Man of Aruba

- The fourth edition of the Strongest Man of Aruba competition will again be held at MooMba Beach. Held from October 4th until October 6th the beach will be a showcase of sheer willpower, incredible strength, trembling muscles, bulging biceps and other well-trained body parts. Judges will have a difficult task, judging game elements like Barrel Throw, Truck Pull, Weight Carry, Stair Racing, Yoke Carry and Farmer Walk to get to their conclusion of who is the winner!
- 5 PM – 10 PM
- Moomba Beach
- Facebook Strongest Man of Aruba



Saturday 5

Stargazing in Aruba: Moon Edition

- Grab your family, friends, or even a stranger and join the Space & Nature Aruba Foundation for our next 'Stargazing in Aruba' event, with focus on our very own natural satellite, the Moon. The foundation members will make their telescopes available so the public can have a look at the Moon, Jupiter and Saturn. Guests can bring their own equipment and share their experience with other guests (not required). Remember to bring your seats, snacks, beverages and enjoy a moment under the beautiful Aruba night sky.
- 8 PM– 11 pm
- Arikok National Park
- Facebook Space and Nature Aruba Foundation

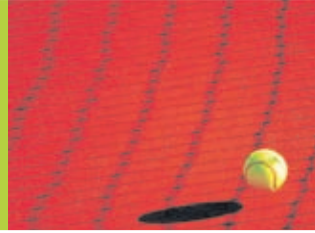


Tuesday 8

Etnia Nativa

- Explore the Native Aruban Art Gallery & Museum where all the produce and exhibit proceeds from discarded as well as recollected materials, recycled in beautiful art pieces inspired on Aruba's archaic Cultures. Anthony Croes will be delighted to give you a personal 1 hour tour.
- Make your appointment
- Westpunt 37-A, Noord
- Facebook: Etnia Nativa

SPORTS



Houston Astros starting pitcher Justin Verlander delivers during the first inning of a baseball game against the Los Angeles Angels, Sunday, Sept. 22, 2019, in Houston.

Associated Press

Blame it on the juice: Pitchers set for homer-filled October

AP Sports Writer

Justin Verlander didn't intend to alter his pitching strategy, not after 14 seasons as a major league ace. But then the home runs stopped making sense.

A long drive by Yankees slugger Aaron Judge? The Houston Astros ace can live with that. This season, though, was full of surprises. Like when spindly utility man Ehire Adrianza drove a fastball into the right field party deck in Minnesota. Or the time light-hitting Angels infielder David Fletcher nearly put one into a parking lot beyond left field during a series in Monterrey, Mexico. Routine fly balls had become wall-scraping homers, and every hitter was suddenly strong enough to reach the second deck. "The game has changed completely," Verlander said.

Continued on Page 23



Pittsburgh Steelers outside linebacker T.J. Watt (90) celebrates after sacking Cincinnati Bengals quarterback Andy Dalton (14) during the second half of an NFL football game in Pittsburgh, Monday, Sept. 30, 2019.

Associated Press
Page 20

The cups runneth over in golf

By DOUG FERGUSON
AP Golf Writer

The next Ryder Cup starts in 360 days, the perfect occasion for the opposing captains to meet Tuesday at Whistling Straits and share absolutely nothing. That's not entirely true. U.S. captain Steve Stricker says he has been involved with designing golf bags and looking at various clothing options. European captain Padraig Harrington says he checked out the location of the team room and even some of the bedrooms where his players will not get enough sleep. "You'd be amazed the detail that goes in behind the scenes," Harrington said. Amazed probably isn't the right word.

The idea was to get everyone talking — or at least thinking — about the Ryder Cup at a time when the Presidents Cup is still five weeks away from finalizing its teams. Europeans won't care about that and some Americans won't either, especially since the one-sided matches will finish 10 days before Christmas in Australia.

In the rearview mirror is the Solheim Cup, which was

decided by the final putt of the final match on the course.

Randall Mell of Golf Channel wrote a column celebrating the most exciting Solheim Cup since it began in 1990, while suggesting with cold, hard facts how the Americans and Europeans could build on the momentum by winning LPGA Tour events. Americans and Europeans have combined to win four LPGA events this year, on track for their lowest output ever.

This was greeted by a tweet from Lizette Salas — not among those four — scolding him for being a buzz kill "after we worked our (tails) off for two years," which had nothing to do with the facts presented and the hope that it can change over the last two months of the season.

For better or worse, there is endless chatter and promotion about the cups, some more than others.

They are different. They are fun.

They rarely lack for drama or passion, at least when it involves Europe against the United States.

The Presidents Cup is the youngest of the three cups



FILE - In this Sunday, July 15, 2018 file photo, Steve Stricker hits on the ninth fairway during the final round of the John Deere Classic golf tournament at TPC Deere Run in Silvis, Ill.

and is not there yet. Only four of the 12 times has it been decided at the very end, though matches in South Africa and South Korea showed potential. The one in South Africa was declared a tie after Tiger Woods and Ernie Els halved three holes of a playoff in pressure that, under the circumstances, rivaled the Ryder Cup.

Woods said it was "one of the most nerve-wracking moments I've ever had in golf," which prompted this response from Robert Allenby: "Thank God."

After watching Ryder Cup highlights during the Whistling Straits media day, someone asked the normally stoic Stricker about

some of his celebrations, and he looked almost embarrassed.

"It brings out some crazy emotions," he said.

"Every time you have a Ryder Cup, it throws up something dramatic and exciting," Harrington added. "It never ceases to keep giving."

That's true as long as golf is being played. For the Ryder Cup, that lasts only three days every two years. One year out, the only competition was a 14-club challenge on the par-3 17th hole along Lake Michigan. Otherwise, there was nothing to be gleaned that the captains had not already said.

Harrington spoke first and

was asked to comment on what worked so well for Europe in a resounding victory a year earlier in France. "You really want me to give you all the answers to what worked?" the Irishman replied.

Stricker, the favorite son of Wisconsin golf, was an assistant captain in 2016 — a rare American victory — and was asked what he could bring from that experience to a Whistling Straits course nothing like Hazeltine.

There were no secrets. Stricker said Europe likes thick rough and slow greens. Americans prefer light rough and fast greens. "Didn't give us much, did he?" Harrington said. □

Biles aims to write more history at gymnastics worlds

STUTTGART, Germany (AP) — Simone Biles has already written her name into gymnastics history many times over. A few more times won't hurt, though.

At the upcoming world championships in Germany, Biles can break the record for most medals won by any gymnast. More than that, she can write herself into the sport's Code of Points forever.

Biles showed off her triple-twisting double-flip — the triple-double for short — when winning the U.S. title in August. If she lands it at worlds, it will go in the Code as "the Biles." The same goes for her double-double beam dismount.

"Getting the skills named after me is really exciting, just to go out there and prove to myself that I can do them, especially under all of the pressure that will be there that night," Biles said Tuesday. "I feel like putting my name on a skill is really rewarding just because it'll be in the Code forever as well as the medals. It's something that I can hold onto just because I'm the one that did it first, so it's really exciting."

Biles already has two skills in the Code, a floor exercise element from 2013 and a vault from last year's world championships.

Biles goes to the championships tied with Russian Svet-

lana Khorkina for the most medals won by a woman with 20, and could also surpass Vitaly Scherbo's record of 23 for the most medals by any gymnast.

It's the last major championships before next year's Olympics in Tokyo. With household names like track star Usain Bolt and swimming great Michael Phelps having retired since the last Olympics in Tokyo, she'll be one of the Games' undeniable standouts. But she doesn't want to think about that. "I feel like if I were to label myself as a superstar, it would bring more expectations on me," she said. "I would feel pressured, more in the limelight, rather than



Simone Biles of the U.S. smiles as she arrives for a news conference prior to the Gymnastics World Championships in Stuttgart, Germany, Monday, Oct. 1, 2019.

Associated Press

now. I just go out there and compete, try to represent Simone, not Simone Biles, whenever I go out there

because at the end of the day I'm still a human being before I'm 'Simone Biles the Superstar.'" □



Steelers break out of funk, stomp Bengals 27-3

By **WILL GRAVES**
AP Sports Writer

PITTSBURGH (AP) — The Pittsburgh Steelers insisted they might have been winless through three weeks, but they were far from hopeless. They stressed the process of finding an identity with franchise quarterback Ben Roethlisberger out for the season with an elbow injury would take time and a collective effort from all involved.

An effort that looked an awful lot like what they put together during a 27-3 pounding of Cincinnati on Monday night.

Mason Rudolph threw for 229 yards and two scores. Running back, part-time wide receiver and occasional wildcat quarterback Jaylen Samuels accounted for 134 yards of total offense and a 2-yard touchdown run. James Conner emerged from an early funk to run for 42 yards and catch eight passes for 83 yards and a score. The defense sacked Andy Dalton eight times and held the Bengals scoreless over the final 51 minutes.

It wasn't perfect. But it was a start. One that helped the Steelers (1-3) avoid their second 0-4 start in 51 years and reaffirmed their belief that they can find a way forward without Roethlisberger.

"It's huge," Samuels said. "Coming in 0-3 and coming back, getting a divisional game, that's huge. We've just got to build off this game."

With Pittsburgh's running game going nowhere through three weeks, running backs coach Eddie Faulkner suggested to offensive coordinator Randy Fichtner that it might be time to dust off the wildcat. Samuels ran it fre-



quently during his college career at N.C. State, and the Bengals (0-4) certainly looked caught off guard when Samuels lined up in the shotgun and started distributing the ball like a point guard. Sometimes he'd hand it off to Conner. Others he'd "throw" a "pop" pass to a teammate running in motion in front of him. Still others he opted to keep it himself, including on his third-quarter touchdown in which he strolled into the end zone after the Bengals bit on a fake hand-off.

"We knew if we could get a lot of guys going sideways, it was going to mess them up a little bit so that's what we did," Samuels said. "It was working. ... We were picking up five, six yards every play. They couldn't stop it."

Samuels ran for 26 yards on 10 carries, caught eight passes for 57 more and was credited with three completions for 31 yards. Con-

ner had 14 touches for 125 yards in all, including a 21-yard sprint through the Cincinnati defense in the second quarter that gave the Steelers a lead they never came close to squandering while beating the Bengals for the ninth straight time.

WOE AND 4

Cincinnati coach Zac Taylor became the second first-year coach to drop his first four games with the Bengals. Sam Wyche started 0-5 in 1984 but helped his team rebound to an 8-8 finish. Taylor's task of getting Cincinnati back to respectability will be far harder if he can't figure out a way to protect Dalton.

"To be quite honest, it starts with me," Taylor said. "I've got to make sure the standard is higher than what it is right now, because I haven't done a good enough job."

The eight sacks Dalton endured were a career-high for the nine-year veteran, who also threw an end

zone interception in the fourth quarter and was strip-sacked by Pittsburgh's outside linebacker Bud Dupree in the second quarter. T.J. Watt fell on the ball and the Steelers were off and running. Dalton finished 21 of 37 for 171 yards, stressing he felt "fine" physically and that he's not panicking.

"Everybody is going to stick together," Dalton said. "We have from the beginning, regardless of the circumstances of these games, we've stuck together. And so I don't expect that to change."

Tyler Boyd, elevated to the No. 1 receiver while A.J. Green recovers from ankle surgery, was held to three receptions for 33 yards on the same field where he starred in college at Pitt.

"Personally I hate being embarrassed," Boyd said. "At the end of the day, I can take the losing. But when you go out there and get embarrassed, Monday night, prime time. I got too

much pride to go out there and showcase what we showcased. It was just awful overall."

RUDOLPH ROLLS

Rudolph was uneven at best in his first career start last week in San Francisco after being thrust into the gig for the rest of the season while Roethlisberger rehabs from elbow surgery. Rudolph was considerably sharper against Cincinnati, though he wasn't asked to do much other than find the closest open man — usually Conner or Samuels — and keep the sticks moving. He completed 24 of 28 passes, the only deep shot a 43-yard strike to Diontae Johnson in the third quarter that broke it open.

"Our message all week was stack one (win) and then start stacking more," said Rudolph, who was awarded the game ball by head coach Mike Tomlin.

INJURIES

Bengals: WR John Ross III left in the third quarter with a right-shoulder injury. ... LT Cordy Glenn missed his fourth straight game while recovering from a concussion and Cincinnati's protection problems continued. The Bengals have now surrendered 19 sacks through four games.

Steelers: TE Vance McDonald sat out with a right shoulder injury. Nick Vannett, acquired in a trade with Seattle last week, started and caught two passes for 28 yards.

UP NEXT

Bengals: Host Arizona next Sunday. The Cardinals won the last meeting, 34-31, in 2015.

Steelers: Welcome AFC North rival Baltimore to Pittsburgh on Sunday. The teams split the season series last year, both winning at home. □



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Culture is key in developing NHL prospects, Devils GM says

By JOHN WAWROW
AP Hockey Writer

Whether it involves New Jersey rookie center Jack Hughes or any other prospect, Devils general manager Ray Shero says the most important aspects of a prospect's development must be in place before first stepping into the locker room.

Simply put, the key is culture, and how it rubs off on an impressionable 18-year-old.

"If you have a bad group of guys, if you're not in a good environment in terms of work ethic, you're like, 'OK, that's how it's done here, great. I'm not going to work, I'm going to stay out 'til 4 o'clock,'" Shero told The Associated Press.

"If there's accountability, and that's really a big thing in terms with anything whether it's business, sports, whatever ... when you walk into that it's 'Oh, that's how it's done,'" he added. "There's learning curves for everything on and off the ice. I think the better you support those guys as young kids and teenagers, the better off they're going to be."

The start of the NHL season this week places the focus on a new crop of youngsters set to make their debuts.

In New Jersey, all eyes are on Hughes, the under-sized, play-making center who became the eighth American-born player selected with the top pick in June. He joins a team that features two other No. 1 draft picks in Taylor Hall, who was selected first by Edmonton in the 2010 draft, and Nico Hischier, selected No. 1 by the Devils in 2017.

Nothing Hughes has done thus far should give Shero pause as the Devils pre-

pare to open their season hosting Winnipeg on Friday. The 5-foot-10, 170-pound Hughes displayed how much of a competitor he is in expressing how unhappy he was losing in his first NHL competitive setting — a 6-4 loss to Buffalo in the Sabres prospects tournament last month.

"We kind of got lucky to put four on the board, and only gave up six. Disappointing game," Hughes said.

The youngster responded once the preseason began by scoring twice, including the decisive goal, on a give-and-go with Nikita Gusev in a 4-3 overtime win in his preseason debut against Boston.

Devils defenseman P.K. Subban was so impressed, he referred to Hughes' performance as "nasty."

And the player who spent the past two years setting USA Hockey's National Development Program's scoring record followed up by scoring a breakaway goal 34 seconds into a 4-2 win over the Rangers a few days later. Hughes finished the preseason with three goals and an assist in four games.

Coming from a hockey family in which his brother Quinn is a defenseman in Vancouver and father Jim a former coach, Jack Hughes understands he has not accomplished anything just yet. And he got a taste of what playing in the NHL would be like representing the United States at the world hockey championships in May.

"I went into this summer knowing I needed a lot of work to be done. I kind of figured it out that it wasn't the USHL," he said. "It was kind of wakeup call to work on my game and get a lot better." The Devils are en-



New Jersey Devils center Jack Hughes celebrates after scoring a goal during the first period of the team's preseason NHL hockey game against the New York Rangers, Friday, Sept. 20, 2019, in Newark, N.J.

Associated Press

couraging Hughes' development by assigning him a locker next to Hall.

Hall sees his role as being someone Hughes can use as a sounding board

"He's taking in a lot of information every day, so helping him with that. It's more leading by example," Hall said. "I think it's up to us as players as coaches as management to shelter him as much as possible to make sure all his energy is going toward hockey."

Like any youngster, Hughes is bound to make mistakes. One issue that stood out in Buffalo was the number of times he coughed up the puck.

Former NHLer turned broadcaster Ed Olczyk isn't concerned, believing Hughes will learn to adapt.

"He's going to try things that he won't in 50 games game from now or 100 games from now. You've going to have to take the good with the bad and vice versa," he

said.

Devils assistant GM Tom Fitzgerald said Hughes' turnovers are no different than what he saw during his time in Pittsburgh with then-youngsters Sidney Crosby and Evgeni Malkin.

"I just think you allow the player to be who they are, and that's what he is," Fitzgerald said. "Jack's a magician with the puck." Here's a list of other youngsters to keep an eye on this season:

D CALE MAKAR, COLORADO

After helping UMass make its first Frozen Four appearance in April, college hockey's Hobey Baker Award-winner made the jump to the NHL by joining Colorado in the midst of its first-round playoff series with Calgary. He became the first defenseman to score a playoff goal in his NHL debut and finished with a goal and five assists in 10 games.

D QUINN HUGHES, VAN-

COVER

A play-making defenseman, Hughes spent two years at Michigan before closing last season with three assists in five games with the Canucks.

RW KAAPO KAKKO, NEW YORK RANGERS

Selected second overall behind Jack Hughes, the 6-foot-2, 194-pound forward led Finland with six goals in 10 games at the world championships. His 22 goals in the Finnish Elite League last season were the most by a draft-eligible player.

LW ALEXANDRE TEXIER, COLUMBUS

The 20-year-old is being counted upon to be part of the Blue Jackets' young core to step up following the offseason free-agency departures of Artemi Panarin and Matt Duchene. Texier had two goals and an assist in eight playoff games with Columbus last spring. □

Salazar's ban overshadows action at track championships

By **EDDIE PELLIS**

AP National Writer

DOHA, Qatar (AP) — Not a single runner passing through the orbit of famed track coach Alberto Salazar has been implicated for doping, so when Donovan Brazier coasted in for a blowout victory Tuesday in the 800-meter race at world championships, there was no reason to suspect he would be, either. But for Brazier, the 22-year-old who became the first American to win a world championship at this distance, there was no avoiding the subject of Salazar. And for track and field, there is no avoiding the ever-present specter of doping. On a night when American men won gold in the 200, 800 and pole vault, many of the questions were about a 61-year-old coach who was kicked out of the event earlier in the day. Brazier runs for the Nike Oregon Project, a 12-person track team headed by Salazar. He was ejected after receiving a four-year suspension for violations that involved pushing his runners to use pills, gels and infusions in ways designed to stretch the rules without quite breaking them. In a way, Salazar's schemes were a success because none of his athletes ever got caught. Brazier says the man who coaches him at NOP isn't Salazar, but an assistant, Pete Julian, who was present after the finish, beaming like a proud papa. In fact, Brazier said he barely knows Salazar. It didn't mean the new champion, whose time of 1 minute, 42.34 seconds set an American record, wouldn't face questions about his affiliation with the team Salazar runs — a team that had been under investigation by the U.S.



Noah Lyles, right, of the United States, wins the men's 200 meters at the World Athletics Championships in Doha, Qatar, Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2019.

Associated Press

Anti-Doping Agency for around six years before the ban came down Tuesday. "I think it would be pretty ignorant to associate me with that," Brazier said. "I think the investigation started when I was in high school, and I had nothing to do with it." Brazier joins distance runner Sifan Hassan as the second athlete from the NOP to win a gold medal at these championships. Over the years, Salazar's most decorated champion was Britain's Mo Farah, the four-time Olympic gold medal-

ist who isn't anywhere near Doha but still felt compelled to issue a statement distancing himself from his old coach. "I left the Nike Oregon Project in 2017 but as I've always said, I have no tolerance for anyone who breaks the rules or crosses a line," Farah said. Exculpatory doping statements from non-competing athletes probably aren't what this sport had in mind when it looked for new ways to make headlines in this new era now void of the sport's only superstar,

the retired Usain Bolt. One man who might have the star power to fill some of that void is American sprinter Noah Lyles. He needed about six steps to overtake the competition at the start of the homestretch of the men's 200, then beat Canada's Andre De Grasse going away, in 19.83 seconds. Lyles, who died his hair silver for this race, took a leisurely victory lap, stopping a couple times to kneel and kiss the track as photographers chased him around the oval. Lyles and 100-meter champion Christian Coleman, another American caught in a doping saga, are headed for what could be a fun showdown at the Tokyo Olympics next year, when both are expected to go for the 100-200 double.

"This gold, overall, was taken care of," said Lyles, who is expected to team with Coleman on the U.S. 4x100 relay team later this week. "Now we're going to get that double gold, maybe even triple, for Tokyo." But Lyles isn't Bolt — and Doha certainly isn't Tokyo ... or London ... or Beijing ... or anyplace Bolt has ever run. An already-thin crowd had disappeared almost completely by the time Lyles was done with his celebration. Thus closed another low-attendance and embarrassing session for organizers, whose insistence on not scheduling day action in the air-conditioned stadium made for a long night filled with lots of field events — fans watching lonely javelin and hammer throwers do their thing, interrupted by an occasional burst of action on the track. In the day's two field finals, Australia's Kelsey-Lee Barber won the javelin throw and American Sam Kendrick defended his pole vault title, then celebrated by trampolining around on the landing mat with his co-medalists: Armand Duplantis of Sweden (silver) and Piotr Lisek of Poland (bronze). But as the day's developments illustrated, track and field can only dream that its worst problems involve the debate over why its biggest event is being held in a land where very few people care about the sport. Instead, the main topic was doping — on this day, in the form of Salazar, a legend who made more news by being barred from the stadium than anyone did while running inside of it. Not Brazier's problem, he insisted. The theme he harped on through all the questioning: He's coached by Julian, not Salazar. "It's disappointing," Brazier said, "that the most coverage we get in track and field is for bad things like that." He was hardly the first winner at a track meet to share that sentiment — and he almost certainly won't be the last. □

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Ump in '12 Braves-Cards infield fly flap in Atlanta for NLDS

NEW YORK (AP) — The umpire who was at the center of an infield fly dispute during the 2012 NL wild-card game between Atlanta and St. Louis will be the crew chief when the Braves and Cardinals meet this week in the Division Series. Major League Baseball announced the crew assignments Monday for the first two rounds of the playoffs. Sam Holbrook will head the six-man crew and be at second base when the Cardinals and Braves open the best-of-five NLCS at Atlanta on Thursday.

Seven years ago, Holbrook was the left field umpire at Turner Field when a popup by Andrelton Simmons in the eighth inning caused a commotion. With runners on first and second and

one out, Holbrook called the infield fly rule — Cardinals shortstop Pete Kozma drifted back and called for the ball, but veered off at the last second and it dropped in front of left fielder Matt Holliday.

Braves fans littered the field with debris and the game was delayed for 19 minutes. Atlanta didn't score in the inning and lost 6-3 in what turned out to be Chipper Jones' last game.

The Braves filed a protest, which MLB executive Joe Torre immediately denied. Holbrook's crew for the NLDS that begins at SunTrust Park includes Tom Hallion, Jim Wolf, Ed Hickox, Pat Ho-berg and Alan Porter.

The playoffs start Tuesday night when Milwaukee visits Washington in the NL

wild-card game. Jeff Nelson will be the crew chief, with Mike Everitt behind the plate, working with Kerwin Danley, Cory Blaser, David Rackley and Carlos Torres. Bill Miller will be the crew chief for the AL wild-card game Wednesday night when Tampa Bay visits Oakland. Chad Fairchild will call balls and strikes, and be joined by Fieldin Culbreth, Chris Guccione, Lance Barrett and Adam Hamari. Ted Barrett will chief the NLDS when the wild-card winner plays at Dodger Stadium on Thursday. Will Little will work the plate in Game 1, with Alfonso Marquez, Doug Eddings, Tripp Gibson and Jordan Baker also on the crew.

Gary Cederstrom heads the crew for the ALDS be-



Seattle Mariners manager Scott Servais, left, argues with home plate umpire Sam Holbrook after Servais was ejected from the baseball game against the Houston Astros during the seventh inning Wednesday, Sept. 25, 2019, in Seattle.

Associated Press

tween Minnesota and New York starting at Yankee Stadium on Friday. Manny Gonzalez has the plate for the opener, joined by Eric Cooper, Lance Barksdale, Todd Tichenor and Adrian Johnson.

Mark Wegner leads the crew for the ALDS between the wild-card game winner and Houston beginning Fri-

day. John Tumpane works the plate in Game 1 and Jerry Meals, Bruce Dreckman, James Hoye and D.J. Reyburn join him.

Dan Iassogna and Laz Diaz are the replay officials for the wild-card games. Ron Kulpa, Gabe Morales, Paul Nauert and Brian O'Nora handle replay in the Division Series. □

Continued from Page 18

Expect more of the same this October.

Hitters smashed a record 6,776 home runs in 2019, soaring past the previous high of 6,105 from two years earlier. It's a rise of over 60% from 2014, a year before a seismic home run spike attributed to tweaks in the baseballs. Major League Baseball commissioned a study in 2018 that concluded there was less drag on the ball causing all those extra homers, but Commissioner Rob Manfred has insisted MLB doesn't know why. He has also denied accusations from Verlander and other pitchers that the balls have been deliberately altered.

Manfred told Forbes last week he has reconvened the scientists from the 2018 study and expects to issue another report after the World Series. His goal: "predictable, consistent performance from the baseball." First, though, may come the juiciest postseason yet. Across the 10 playoff rosters, only three qualified hitters connected for fewer than 15 home runs this season — St. Louis' Kolten Wong (11), Milwaukee's Lorenzo Cain (11) and Houston's Josh Reddick (14). There were

21 such hitters on postseason teams in 2014.

Verlander has been critical of structural changes to the baseball since 2017, when pitchers and coaches from the Astros and Dodgers complained that World Series balls were slicker than ones used in the regular season. They moaned and groaned while the clubs combined for a Series-record 25 homers, but fans largely oohed and awed — especially during Game 5, a topsy-turvy classic featuring seven home runs.

Verlander has called this year's balls a "joke." He's given up a career-most 36 homers, yet he's neck-and-neck with teammate Gerrit Cole for the AL Cy Young Award. How'd he do that? "I used to pitch to weak contact," he said. "I no longer try to miss barrels. I try to miss bats."

After years of seeking quick outs to keep his pitch count low, Verlander has gone whole hog on punchouts. The 36-year-old totaled 300 of them in a season for the first time and surpassed 3,000 for his career in his final start. He avoided the middle of the plate at all costs, especially with runners on base — 28 of his homers were solo shots.



New York Yankees' Aaron Judge, left, celebrates with third base coach Phil Nevin (88) after hitting a home run against the Toronto Blue Jays during the first inning of a baseball game, Sunday, Sept. 22, 2019, in New York.

Associated Press

Of course, strikeouts have surged everywhere — the majors set a record for the 12th consecutive season with 42,823 of them in 2019. There are varied reasons for that, including stronger arms and aggressive bullpen management, but pitchers say distrust in the baseball is a factor.

"There's been an adaptation in the way I pitch that correlates with the ball, I just didn't necessarily realize I was doing it because of the ball," Verlander said. "You can no longer give in to a fastball away because 99% of players in Major League Baseball now can

take an away fastball and hit a homer opposite field. "So what's my defense to that? My defense is I have to have you swing and miss."

In the clubhouse of the NL East-champion Braves, every pitcher seems to remember at least one home run this year that looked like a pop fly off the bat.

"(Christian) Yelich, he went straight-center off me," starter Mike Foltynewicz said.

"(Pete) Alonso, on a changeup," added rotation-mate Mike Soroka.

"You just know sometimes you might make your pitch

and it's not going to matter," All-Star reliever Shane Greene said.

Those pitchers aren't as concerned about strategizing around the homers as they are with steeling themselves against the frustration of it all. Soroka had the lowest home run rate of any qualified NL starter, and he credits that to an effective sinker and a willingness to be "stubborn."

"The way guys are hitting them out now, every time the ball goes in the air you think it has a chance," Braves manager Brian Snitker said. "They experience all that on a daily basis over the course of the season. The ones that are successful are the ones who can handle that adversity."

The postseason is a different game though, and not just because of the extra scrutiny and pressure. There are 26 hitters on postseason rosters who hit at least 30 home runs this season — not including Yelich, the Brewers' NL MVP contender who will miss the postseason with a broken kneecap. Four teams bypassed the previous season record for homers, with the Twins (307) and Yankees (306) becoming the first clubs to reach 300. □



By: Carlos M Viana, CCN, OMD

In our clinic we have developed a protocol that has been shown to be effective in the treatment of hot, painful junctions between bones. Joints problems are commonly called "arthritis" but it is a group of different forms of joint inflammation whose origin is not known. Traditional Chinese Medicine calls the different conditions which cause pain, stiffness, and in most cases, swelling in the joints "steaming bones".

In regular, allopathic medicine the initial treatment for joint pain is limited to the use of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) resulting in many patients eventually becoming wheelchair bound. Others have excess tissue produced from the uncontrolled arthritis removed. The result is progressive joint damage making arthritis the number one cause of physical disability. Arthritis affects both sexes, all races, socioeconomic levels, and geographic areas.

Identical twins statistically do not both develop arthritis. Medical researchers realize there is no genetic foundation to arthritis. Associations with the Epstein-Barr virus that causes mononucleosis, and testing on animals with the herpes simplex virus have pharmaceutical companies looking for the "something" that produces arthritis so a pill or vaccine can be developed. All 86 forms of arthritis have one thing in common; chronic inflammation that breaks down

Deteriorating junction

connective tissue. Connective tissue has the material to rebuild itself when the body is in balance. However, in the presence of inflammation, this material builds big painful joints. With unrelenting inflammation the body's immune system turns to attack itself.

cholesterol, smoking, and blood pressure. Although allopathic medicine recognizes indicators found in blood tests and thermagram reports, very little attention is given to them. Even less attention is placed on managing the risk of the body's reaction to toxins and heavy metals except in acute poisoning. Additionally, recognized but not addressed are oxidative stress, connective tissue breakdown, chronic inflammation, anaerobic tendency, free calcium excess, and acid stress; all leading to degenerative diseases and accelerated aging.

Life expectancy for patients with any form of arthritis is shortened by 5-10 years. After 5 years of disease, approximately 33% of patients will not be working; after 10 years, approximately half will be wheelchair bound. Daily activities are impaired in most patients. Spontaneous clinical remission, getting better, is uncommon with allopathic medicine and only seen in 5-10% of patients.

In our patients with painful joints, we see many common features. The first is that they do not drink enough water. Painful stiff joint symptoms are present in the beginning of mild dehydration. In moderate chronic dehydration we see most of the symptoms of Arthritis, including High cholesterol, High blood pressure, Heart Problems, Diabetes, and Water Retention or Edema. Chronic dehydration is a problem doctors normally do not address until it is life threatening. Water plays a critical role in every single chemical reaction in the body. Next to oxygen, it is the most vital element of life. Yet, it seems to be virtually ignored by doctors and Public Health Departments. We have good results using colon hydro-therapy to help eliminate toxins and re-hydrate the body.

Joint cartilage is composed mainly of water (70-80%). The solid part of cartilage consists primarily of collagen which is a protein. Problems in the synovial membrane to transfer glucose and protein will hinder the production of collagen. The most abundant circulating protein is found in the blood plasma is albumin. Levels

of albumin are often decreased in people with active rheumatoid arthritis. We can check and monitor your amount of albumin by ordering a blood test.

If your blood serum albumin is low, the synovial membrane will not have sufficient protein available to transfer into the joint. Our arthritis protocol is to determine what is reducing your blood albumin level. Albumin serves to sponge up toxins produced by bacterial infections. We always test to identify infection together with albumin.


In our clinic we have found that periodontal disease, a bacterial infection of the gums, causes byproducts to enter the bloodstream and trigger the liver to make proteins such as C-reactive protein (CRP) that inflames arteries, joints and promotes blood clot formation. Periodontal disease and heavy metal poisoning, need to be considered as major contributors to increased levels of CRP by the medical community. The treatment outcomes with people being treated by physicians trained in biocompatible dentistry and detoxification of heavy metals are very positive.

We see definite co-relationships between joint problems and patient's metabolic type. Generally, we find that Blood Type A and AB tends to get a puffy, inflamed arthritis, while Blood Type O tends to get a harder, more persistent type of arthritis. At Viana Healing Center we put all patients on the blood type diet, which can additionally be modified for the individual.

The sugar of wheat germ is highly specific to Blood type A and O in causing joint pain. The adoption of a wheat-free diet appears to have a positive effect. Type O individuals following the type O diet have experienced beneficial changes in their blood test results, including total cholesterol, HDL and Triglycerides, without use of cholesterol lowering medications.

Get The Point! A diagnosis of any type of arthritis should be a wake up call. Allopathic medicine offers a health future that does not look bright. We use blood, amino acid, hair testing and biocompatible (natural/non-toxic) dental exams to determine the source of your inflammation. Applying the science based results; we develop a natural health plan that can make positive changes not only for your joints, but your overall wellbeing. Call to schedule an appointment. □

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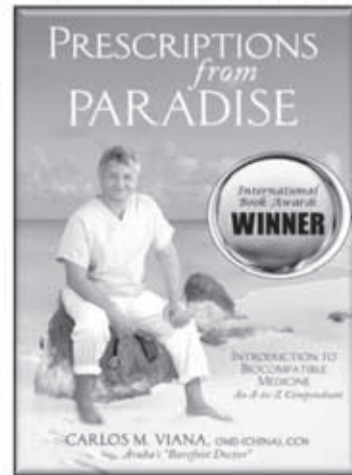


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UPS gets government approval to become a drone airline

By DAVID KOENIG
AP Business Writer

DALLAS (AP) — UPS has won government approval to operate a nationwide fleet of drones, which will let the company expand deliveries on hospital campuses and move it one step closer to making deliveries to consumers.

Many regulatory obstacles remain, however, before UPS — or other operators who are testing drones — can fill the sky over cities and suburbs with drones carrying goods to people's doorsteps.

United Parcel Service Inc. said Tuesday that its drone subsidiary was awarded an airline certificate last week by the Federal Aviation Administration, the first U.S. company to get such a broad approval.

Even before getting that designation, UPS Flight Forward, as the subsidiary is called, has operated more than 1,000 flights at WakeMed's hospital campus in Raleigh, North Carolina.

The designation removes limits on the size of the company's potential drone operation. Flight Forward can fly an unlimited number of drones, a key step toward expanding the operation. It can also fly drones at night — the company plans to do that after installing the necessary colored warning lights on each machine.

However, UPS still faces severe restrictions before it can run a large commercial operation with drones. For example, drones won't be allowed to fly beyond the sight of the operator without an FAA exemption for each route. Also, each flight will need a separate operator. Scott Price, the

company's chief strategy officer, said UPS will eventually apply for FAA permission to have a single operator fly multiple drones at the same time.

The airline certificate lets UPS fly drones carrying more than 55 pounds, "but we're not comfortable we have the hardware for that yet," Price said in an interview.

Operations will be limited to campus-like settings because FAA has not yet written regulations to allow commercial drone flights over populated areas. Price said UPS is eyeing "hundreds" of campuses in the U.S., including hospitals, colleges and office complexes.

Price said the Wake Forest experiment has been successful, with only "a few" drone flights canceled for mechanical problems or because of bad weather. He said none have crashed. With a special FAA exemption, the company operated a drone flight there on Friday beyond the sight of the operator, which Price said was a first for a revenue-generating delivery. UPS believes the earliest commercially viable uses of drones will be for same-day deliveries, for augmenting truck-borne deliveries in rural areas, and for larger drones that could carry cargo of up to a ton from one rural area to another.

Price said the latter idea is still years away. Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao called the decision a step forward in integrating drones into the U.S. airspace and maintaining U.S. leadership in unmanned aviation. UPS is racing against technology companies and



In this June 24, 2019, photo a UPS aircraft taxis to its hangar area after it arrived at Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport in Grapevine, Texas.

Associated Press

startups to develop commercial-scale deliveries by drone to consumers.

Amazon.com CEO Jeff Bezos promised in 2014 that drones would be making deliveries to people's homes by 2019, but regulatory and technological hurdles proved too much for that prediction. Earlier this year, the FAA gave permission for a unit of Google parent Alphabet Inc. to make drone deliveries, but only in a tiny piece of southwestern Virginia.

Other delivery companies such as Germany's DHL Express are testing drones. UPS rival FedEx plans to take part in tests by the Alphabet unit, called Wing

Aviation.

Ryan Citron, a transportation analyst at Navigant, said UPS was not the best-known player in drones — "Bezos gets more headlines," he noted — but the company went about launching its subsidiary and seeking FAA approval. UPS has leapfrogged those rivals, at least for now, by being able to offer services in hundreds of campus settings.

Citron said that UPS' performance on hospital and college grounds will help determine how quickly regulators will approve consumer deliveries.

"If everything works well, it gives them legitimacy to

move into the residential space more quickly," he said, "but if there are some major crashes or incidents it could slow down the approval process. It's going to be an important test bed." In the U.S., drone operators have been frustrated by the lack of FAA regulations to allow drones to fly over urban and suburban areas, and to set rules for remote identification of drones. The latter rule would help law enforcement agencies, which were given authority under a law passed last year to track, intercept and destroy drones that they deem a security threat. □




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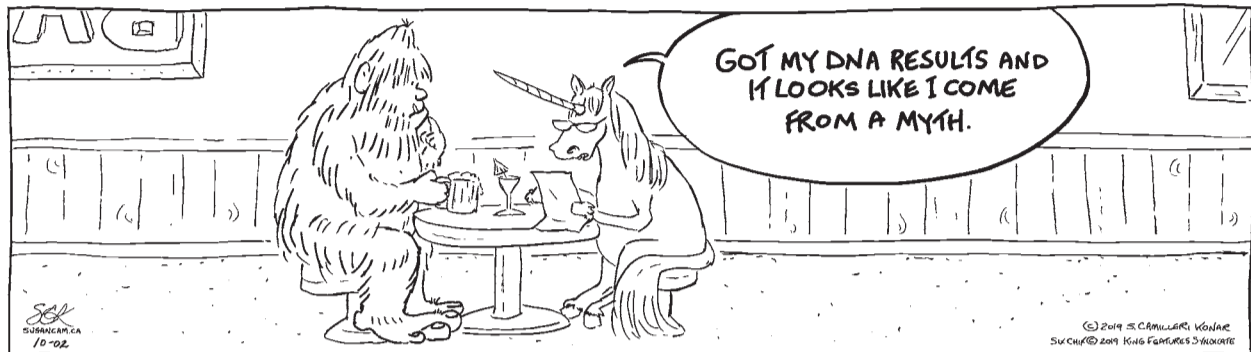
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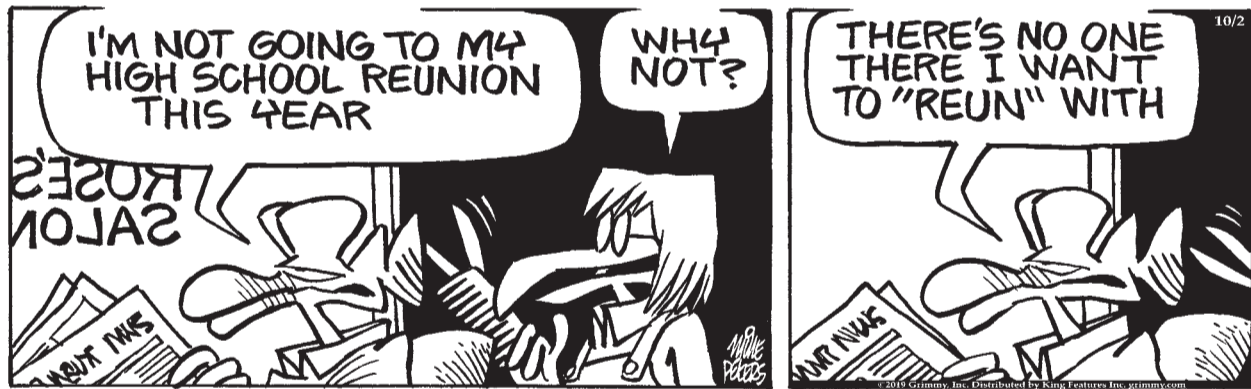
6 Chix



Blondie



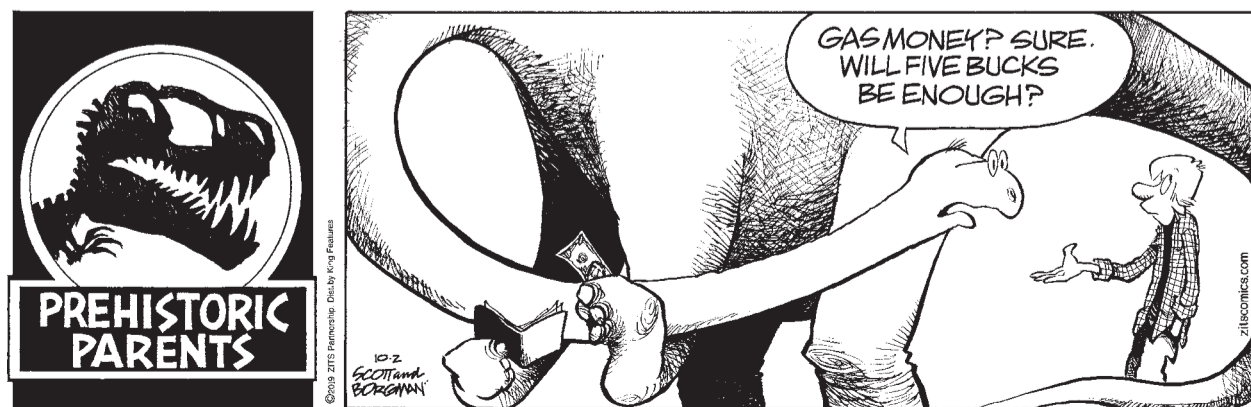
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

	7	3					1	8	
6			2		3				4
			8		1				6
			3		6				7
		1			7				8
	4				5				2
1					8				3
4					2				9
9	3	2	5				8	7	

Difficulty Level ★★★ 10/02

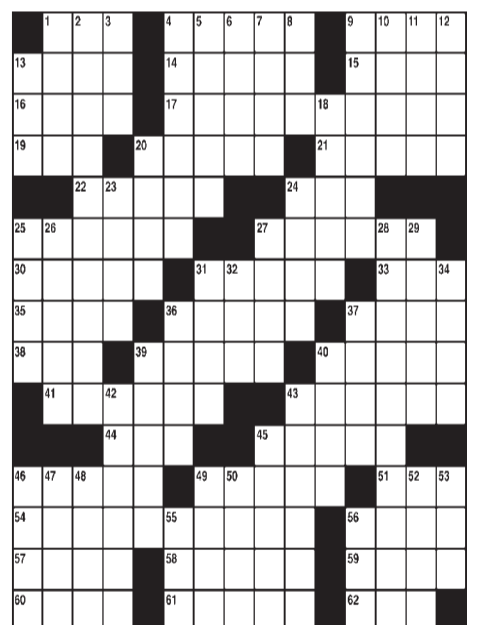
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

1	9	7	8	6	2	5	3	4
6	5	4	1	7	3	2	9	8
2	8	3	4	5	9	1	7	6
7	4	8	2	9	5	3	6	1
5	1	2	6	3	4	9	8	7
9	3	6	7	1	8	4	2	5
8	7	9	3	4	1	6	5	2
3	6	1	5	2	7	8	4	9
4	2	5	9	8	6	7	1	3

ACROSS

- 1 Old worn-out horse
- 4 Look the ___ way; ignore a wrong
- 9 Musical symbol
- 13 Snout
- 14 Gleaning
- 15 Listen
- 16 Military installation
- 17 Vehicle
- 19 Tai ___; popular martial art
- 20 Shindig
- 21 Up ___ air; not yet settled
- 22 Reject with disdain
- 24 Tiny
- 25 Sticks twirled in parades
- 27 Well aged & mild, as wine
- 30 Modify
- 31 Asked nosy questions
- 33 Dyer's tub
- 35 Out of ___; acting improperly
- 36 "The Man Who ___ Be King"; Sean Connery film
- 37 Mr. Arnaz
- 38 "What's up, ___?"
- 39 Large piece of luggage
- 40 One's strong point
- 41 "I've Got a ___" of old TV
- 43 Bank employee
- 44 Egg layer
- 45 "Same for me!"
- 46 Concur
- 49 Most populous nation
- 51 Take ___; leave
- 54 Outer limits
- 56 Variety show act
- 57 Pennsylvania port
- 58 Become swollen
- 59 Group of cattle
- 60 Refuse to admit
- 61 Praise highly
- 62 McMahon & Harris



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews 10/2/19

DOWN

- 1 Actor Wyle
- 2 Aid
- 3 Word of mild surprise
- 4 Acting awards
- 5 Prickle
- 6 Innuendo
- 7 Jealousy
- 8 Deli loaf
- 9 ___ No. 5; classic perfume
- 10 Season before Easter
- 11 Every
- 12 Footloose and fancy-___
- 13 "Chicago P.D." network
- 18 Give in
- 20 Football kick
- 23 Religious leader
- 24 Garden intruder
- 25 Not in need of shampoo
- 26 "Bye, Juan!"
- 27 Dairy product
- 28 Failed to notice
- 29 Spend foolishly
- 31 Sulk
- 32 Gallop
- 34 Bleacher level

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

DIKE	DINGO	SNAP
ROAD	ONION	HOBO
OWNS	NECTARINES	
PASHOPE	AROSE	
ALERT	FIT	
RISERS	BALSAS	
OSCAR	SPITS	BUG
WAIF	SHADE	STIR
SAT	STOWS	STONE
CYGNET	SHAGGY	
RIM	SPIRE	
SLOOP	PEON	TWO
MARASCHINO	CHAD	
ULAN	OUTOF	HELD
GALS	TEARS	IRKS

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- 36 Songbird
- 37 Dumbbell
- 39 Cornered
- 40 Crumbly cheese
- 42 VP after Al Gore
- 43 Christmas tree glitter
- 45 San ___ Padres
- 46 With head on pillow
- 47 Puncture
- 48 Destroy
- 49 ___ of the matter; essence
- 50 Sword handle
- 52 Evergreens
- 53 Floral delivery svc.
- 55 NYC's Beame
- 56 That woman

Ohio State shares new crime data on doc, task force details

By KANTELE FRANKO Associated Press
COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — About 1,500 instances of decades-old sexual misconduct by a now-deceased Ohio State team doctor were reported last year and this year, the university disclosed Tuesday. It also revealed that the members of its new task force to help address sexual misconduct on college campuses include experts, such as the man who leads the clearinghouse for reports of sex abuse in Olympic sports, but no abuse survivors. The university announced plans for the panel four months ago, shortly after an investigation concluded that former team doctor Richard Strauss sexually abused young men between 1979 and 1997 while school officials who heard concerns didn't stop him. A few of the 300-plus men alleging misconduct by Strauss have questioned

whether the panel's creation is meaningful action or a public-relations maneuver. Ohio State said the task force will help it and other campuses learn from findings of the investigation and prevent abuse, and that survivors will be part of that process. It said Strauss survivors who have sued the school in federal court couldn't be included on the panel because of the pending lawsuits, which are in mediation toward a possible settlement. The task force will be led by Alan Michaels, a professor and dean emeritus in Ohio State's law college. It also will include Regis Becker, the interim CEO of the U.S. Center for SafeSport, and academic professionals in related fields. Allegations about Strauss raised last year by an ex-wrestler prompted the investigation. Some of the accusers have publicly recounted experiencing multiple instances of abuse. □

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Restoring forests 1 tree at a time, to help repair climate

By **CHRISTINA LARSON**
AP Science Writer
MADRE DE DIOS, Peru (AP)

— Destruction of the forests can be swift. Regrowth is much, much slower.

But around the world, people are putting shovels to ground to help it happen. They labor amid spectacular recent losses — the Amazon jungle and the Congo basin ablaze, smoke from Indonesian rainforests wafting over Malaysia and Singapore, fires set mostly to make way for cattle pastures and farm fields. Between 2014 and 2018, a new report says, an area the size of the United Kingdom was stripped of forest each year.

Rebuilding woodland is slow and often difficult work. And it requires patience: It can take several decades or longer for forests to regrow as viable habitats, and to absorb the same amount of carbon lost when trees are cut and burned.

And yet, there is urgency to that work — forests are one of the planet's first lines of defense against climate change, absorbing as much as a quarter of man-made carbon emissions each year.

Through photosynthesis, trees and other plants use carbon dioxide, water and sunlight to produce chemical energy to fuel their growth; oxygen is released as a byproduct. As forests have shrunk, however, so has an already overloaded Earth's capacity to cope with carbon emissions.

Successful reforestation programs take into account native plant species. They are managed by groups with a sustained commitment to monitoring forests, not just one-off tree planting events. And



A bulldozer knocks down non-native trees in Monongahela National Forest, W.Va., on Aug. 26, 2019.

usually, they economically benefit the people who live nearby — for instance, by creating jobs, or reducing erosion that damages homes or crops.

The impact could be great: A recent study in the journal *Science* projected that if 0.9 billion hectares (2.2 billion acres) of new trees were planted — around 500 billion saplings — they could absorb 205 gigatonnes (220 gigatons) of carbon once they reached maturity. The Swiss researchers estimated this would be equivalent to about two-thirds of man-made carbon emissions since the start of the Industrial Revolution.

Other scientists dispute those calculations, while some fear the theoretical promise of tree-planting as

an easy solution to climate changes could distract people from the range and scope of the responses needed.

But all agree that trees matter. And in many places around the world, people are working to revive them: —In a region of southeastern Peru called Madre de Dios, forestry researcher Jhon Farfan inspects lands where the forest has already been lost to illegal gold mining.

After cutting and burning centuries-old trees, miners used diesel pumps to suck up deep layers of the earth, then pushed the soil through filters to separate out gold particles. To turn gold dust into nuggets, they stirred in mercury, which binds the gold together but also poisons the land.

Left behind are patches of desert-like land — dry, sandy, stripped of topsoil and ringed by trunks of dead trees.

Last December, Farfan and other scientists with the Peru-based nonprofit CINCIA planted more than 6,000 saplings of various species native to this part of

the Amazon, including the giant shihuahuaco, and tested different fertilizers. Since the project began three years ago, the team has planted more than 42 hectares (115 acres) with native seedlings, the largest reforestation effort in the Peruvian Amazon to date.

—After miners left West Virginia's Cheat Mountain in the 1980s, there was an effort to green the coal mining sites to comply with U.S. law. The companies used heavy machinery to push upturned soil back into place, compacting the mountainside with bulldozers. The result was soil so packed in that rainwater couldn't seep down, and tree roots couldn't expand. Companies planted "desperation species" — grasses with shallow roots or non-native trees that could endure, but wouldn't reach their full height or restore the forest as it had been. On Cheat Mountain and at other former mining sites across Appalachia, more than a million acres of former forests are in similar arrested development.

Now Michael French, director of operations for the Kentucky-based nonprofit Green Forests Work, and his colleagues are collaborating with the U.S. Forest Service to restore native Appalachian forests and the rare species they support — by first tearing down other trees.

Green Forests Work has reforested around 800 acres within the Monongahela, and it is taking a similar approach to other former mining sites across Appalachia, having reforested around 4,500 total acres since 2009.

— Maria Coelho da Fonseca Machado Moraes, nicknamed Dona Graça, runs a tree nursery that grows seedlings of species native to Brazil's lesser-known jungle — the Atlantic coastal rainforest.

She collaborates with a nonprofit group called Save the Golden Lion Tamarin, which works to protect and restore the forest habitat of the endangered namesake monkey. "The Atlantic rainforest is one of the planet's most threatened biomes, more than 90 percent of it was deforested," said Luis Paulo Ferraz, the nonprofit's executive secretary. "What is left is very fragmented."

As she nears 50, Dona Graça says she is furious at what has happened to the forest, which was whittled down to allow for the urban expansion of Rio de Janeiro and other cities.

And so, between feeding her chickens and raking the leaves, she grows seedlings of rare species. She mixes limestone and clay, places it in plastic nursery bags and plants seeds in them; she irrigates them with water and cow urine. Local replanting efforts — which aim to reconnect fragmented parcels of forest — often use the seedlings from Dona Graça's nursery.

She does this, she said, for posterity.

"In the future when I pass away ... that memory I tried to leave for the people is: It's worth it to plant, to build," she said. □

Associated Press

Meghan sues British tabloid over personal letter

LONDON (AP) — British royal Meghan, the Duchess of Sussex, has sued a tabloid newspaper that she claims illegally published a personal letter she wrote to her father.

The civil lawsuit accuses the Mail on Sunday of copyright infringement, misuse of private information and violating the U.K.'s data protection law with the "intrusive" publication of the letter, a spokeswoman for Schillings, the law firm handling the case, said.

Prince Harry accused the Mail on Sunday of editing the letter in "an intentionally destructive manner" to "manipulate" readers with an unflattering portrayal of his wife, who was the American actress known

as Meghan Markle before the couple married in May 2018.

In a long statement lambasting British tabloids more broadly, Harry said the lawsuit had "been many months in the making" following a "ruthless campaign" to smear Meghan by a "press pack that has vilified her almost daily" and created "lie after lie at her expense" during her maternity leave.

"I have been a silent witness to her private suffering for too long. To stand back and do nothing would be contrary to everything we believe in," the prince said in the statement posted on the couple's royal website.

"There is a human cost to this relentless propaganda, specifically when it is know-

ingly false and malicious, and though we have continued to put on a brave face - as so many of you can relate to - I cannot begin to describe how painful it has been," Harry said.

A Mail on Sunday spokesman told Britain's Press Association the paper "stands by the story it published and will be defending this case vigorously."

"Specifically, we categorically deny that the duchess's letter was edited in any way that changed its meaning," the spokesman said.

Harry has lashed out at British celebrity news coverage before. He lashed out at aggressive paparazzi that stalked Meghan's every move when they were dating and offensive treat-



Britain's Meghan Duchess of Sussex, visits the Mothers2Mothers organisation, which trains and employs women living with HIV as frontline health workers across eight African nations, in Cape Town, South Africa, Wednesday, Sept. 25, 2019.

Associated Press

ment of her biracial heritage by some media.

In Tuesday's statement, he mentioned his late mother, Princess Diana, who died in an August 1997 car crash

while being pursued by paparazzi, as the reason he knew the move to take a tabloid to court "may not be the safe one, it is the right one. □"

Reggae stars: UK marks house where Bob Marley, Wailers lived

LONDON (AP) — The musician and songwriter Bob Marley has been honored with an English Heritage blue plaque at the west London address where he and his band the Wailers lived in 1977.

The Jamaican-born reggae star joins John Lennon, Freddie Mercury, Mozart and other musicians and composers who have been honored with a rare blue plaque.

The plaque was unveiled Tuesday at 42 Oakley Street in the Chelsea neighborhood. Anecdotal reports from witnesses indicate the house was the band's headquarters and Marley's primary address.

It was unveiled by Rastafarian writer Benjamin Zephaniah and broadcaster David Olusoga, who called Marley "a cultural icon who blazed a trail for other black artists."

The band was recording its renowned "Exodus" album at the time.

Marley died in 1981 at the height of his fame. □

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Filmmaker/actor Tyler Perry, known for the "Madea" films, speaks during a ceremony honoring him with a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame on Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2019, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

Tyler Perry believes his studio rivals Hollywood's best

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Tyler Perry remembered shedding tears when he saw an Atlanta highway exit bearing the name of his television and film studio for the first time.

The actor-director-writer believes he might have the same emotions during the grand opening of his massive state-of-the-art Tyler Perry Studios on Saturday night. He's planning a star-studded unveiling of his 330-acre studio, where some big projects have already been filmed including his "Madea" films along with AMC's "Walking Dead" and Marvel's blockbuster hit "Black Panther."

"When I came here in 1992, I came with a dream," Perry said in a recent interview. "I'm looking at everything I've dreamed and more to come to pass. It just reminds me. I just thought this was the Promised Land and that sign reminded me of that every time I pass it. The studio is a reminder as well."

Perry said his sprawling studio rivals other major Hollywood studios including Warner Bros. and Paramount Pictures. It's considered one of the largest production studios in the country with 12 soundstages, 40 buildings on-site that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places and more than 200 acres of green space.

The filmmaker built the studio on a former Army base called Fort McPherson, which is south of downtown Atlanta, after purchasing the land in 2015.

"I gave them the absolute best," he said. "I built the absolute best I could. We perform and run this place like a top. We have excellent service and everything you would expect to have in a major film television studio. People are glad to shoot here. A lot of them want to return because of the way we handled it."

Perry went from being homeless to become a force as a filmmaker to now being honored with a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, which he will receive Tuesday. His career has been built on the success of his "Madea" stage play tours and movies along with his "Why Did I Get Married?" films.

He recently partnered with Viacom to launch the BET Plus streaming service, which debuted last month. He'll also have two new drama series, "The Oval" and "Sistas," premiere on BET this month.

But with all his accomplishments, Perry said Hollywood still has a hard time understanding the value of his content, which has gotten what he calls "undying" support from African Americans. He said the industry also struggles to realize the "power of the black dollar" and the amount of work he's put into each project. "Nobody in Hollywood believes that I'm sitting around and writing seven series by myself," he said. "I have no writer's room because nobody else is writing anything. I'm writing everything. There's nobody else directing any of the shows."

I'm on (the) set directing every show. That's so rare for the town. They can't even wrap their brains around it. On these TV shows, they shoot three, four or five pages a day. I'm shooting 90 pages a day. It's very difficult for them to even wrap their brains around that to understand. So I feel like they don't get it. If they did understand, they would realize that there's a lot to Hollywood that could change or should change." One place Perry believes he can continue to make a difference is through his studio. He's known for creating opportunities for African Americans and other people of color to work on his sets since opening a 200,000-square-foot studio in 2006. He sold that studio a few years ago after he moved to his current location.

Perry believes his films and owning a studio could have a lasting impact on his legacy. But he wants the studio to become a beacon to inspire other filmmakers with the hope of keeping it in the family.

"I think they will go hand in hand," Perry said of his filmmaking career and studio ventures. "But I think this brick-and-mortar of the studio speaks volumes because it's not about my dream. It's about all the other people that are able to come in and build dreams and share dreams and tell their stories as well. I hope it lives on forever and ever. And if my son wants to take it over, that would be even better." □

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'You're good-looking': Ukraine's leader woos Tom Cruise

KYIV, Ukraine (AP) — Ukraine's leader isn't just trying to charm U.S. President Donald Trump — he's set his sights now on Tom Cruise, too. Mission impossible? Maybe not — Cruise is studying possible Ukrainian locations

for an upcoming film, according to Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy's office. Zelenskyy tapped his roots as a TV and film comedian when hosting Cruise in the Ukrainian presidential headquarters Monday night. As Cruise

walked in, he said "You're good-looking!," according to video excerpts released Tuesday by his office. The video excerpts included no mention of Trump or the U.S. impeachment inquiry in which Ukraine plays a starring role. □

Review: Portman's 'Lucy in the Sky' is an interesting mess

By LINDSEY BAHR
AP Film Writer

The words "inspired by real events" are some of the first you see on screen in "Lucy in the Sky." But that loose tie to reality becomes more of a noose than a help for the story that director Noah Hawley is trying to tell.

Hawley and screenwriters Elliott DiGuseppi and Brian C. Brown cherry pick facts from former astronaut Lisa Nowak's stranger-than-fiction story to reach some larger point about the metaphysical and psychological effects of space travel. But the significant and seemingly random changes, embellishments and omissions make you wonder why they even needed the tether of Nowak in the first place. And no, I'm not talking about diapers or the lack thereof.

Nowak was a Naval Academy graduate, a mother of three and an accomplished astronaut who in July 2006 went to the International Space Station as a mission specialist on the shuttle Discovery. Less than a year later, in the midst of an affair with a fellow astronaut, she made national news by driving 900 miles to confront her lover's other girlfriend. She wore a wig and a trench coat and had in her car a knife, a BB pistol, a steel mallet

and surgical tubing. She became the butt of many jokes, lost her job and was discharged from the Navy. The headlines often summed up the situation as a torrid love triangle. Some wondered why a woman with a family and so many professional accomplishments would risk everything for an affair. Love makes you crazy, many concluded. But "Lucy in the Sky" foists an alternate narrative on the situation: What if it wasn't really a jealous lover's rage? What if 12 days, 18 hours and 36 minutes in space changes a person's composition in ways that for all of our years of space travel we have yet to really reconcile with?

It's a fascinating question, but one that "Lucy in the Sky" only kind of deals with. Natalie Portman assumes the role of the protagonist who the movie calls Lucy Cola for perhaps no other reason other than having the excuse to use The Beatles song. She is a non-sense scientist who has spent her life striving to be the best, overcoming such professional handicaps as being a woman and not having an Ivy League education. She has a thick southern accent, an inexplicable Dorothy Hamill haircut, a sweet and dotting husband, Drew (Dan Stevens) who can't open

jars without her help, and, in this account, no children. She does, however, have a teenage niece (Pearl Amanda Dickson) who she often has to look after.

We meet Lucy in space and it's a powerful moment. Portman's almond eyes tear up and submit to the overwhelming enormity of being wholly alone in the darkness. She sees her small life on earth as though in a trance. And suddenly it's over and she's back to doing school pickups and opening jars and running laps. It's a come-down that she's not prepared for, which is part of the reason why she finds herself in an extramarital dalliance with a fellow astronaut, Mark Goodwin (Jon Hamm), who has also had a life changing experience in space and come back somewhat broken.

There are moments of intense beauty in "Lucy in the Sky," mostly when Hawley zooms in on his star's evocative face. But Portman alone can't save this muddled endeavor. In his feature directorial debut, the creator of the " Fargo " and " Legion " television series tries to do too much to make everything more interesting (like changing the aspect ratio of the frame more than a few times and forcing an eye-rolling butterfly metaphor into the sto-



This image released by Fox Searchlight Pictures shows Natalie Portman in a scene from "Lucy In The Sky."

Associated Press

ry). In the end, too, neither Lucy nor Lisa is redeemed or made more remarkable. The film still settles for a sensationalist climax in an airport parking lot with Portman in a wig and a trench coat confronting Mark and his new girlfriend Erin (Zazie Beetz in a mostly thankless role).

It'd be too easy to try to blame all the men involved, but in the past few years we've had a number of quite interesting, nuanced

and entertaining looks at tabloid scandals including "Molly's Game," "I, Tonya" and even this year's "Hustlers" — two of which were written and directed by men. The "Lucy" team just missed the mark. "Lucy in the Sky," a Fox Searchlight/Walt Disney Studios release, is rated R by the Motion Picture Association of America for "for language and some sexual content." Running time: 124 minutes. Two stars out of four. □

Review: Billy Strings' breakout album takes listeners 'Home'

By RON HARRIS
Associated Press

The lightning fast fingers of Billy Strings have tapped him as the future of bluegrass music for a few years now. But it is his creative musical storytelling, paired with solid vocals on "Home" that should seal the deal, pleasing fans of the genre and creating some new ones.

Strings, a 26-year-old Michigan-born multi-instrumentalist, is the perfect blend of pure talent and pluck. He's comfortable bringing his

indie-rock influence into his latest release and weaves it well while fleshing out inventive tracks.

Songs like "Hollow Heart" are beautifully delivered, but traditional bluegrass in approach and structure. Where Strings makes his true mark is on the title track, a beefy seven-minute-plus song that builds from a slow burn to race car pace, crashing into a magical collection of guitar, mandolin and light percussion. It matches the song's premise of challeng-



This cover image released by Rounder Records shows "Home," a release by Billy Strings.

Associated Press

ing that in which one finds comfort.

The earworm here is album opener "Taking Water," replete with beautiful banjo and String's deft work on acoustic guitar, his staple instrument. It can be hard for even the most skilled bluegrass musicians to break through tradition and reach a wider audience. It takes an acknowledgement of the past but a willingness to explore the musical path ahead.

Thankfully, Billy Strings can do it all. □

Arrows and smartphones: daily life of Amazon Tembe tribe

By **LUIS ANDRES HENAO**
ALTO RIO GUAMA INDIGENOUS RESERVE, Brazil (AP)

— They hunt with bows and arrows, fish for piranhas and gather wild plants, while some watch soap operas on TV or check the internet on phones inside thatch-roof huts.

They paint their faces with dyes from seeds to prepare for battle and also use video technology to fight illegal loggers and other threats.

Daily life in the remote Tembe indigenous villages in the Amazon jungle of Brazil mixes tradition and modernity.

They bathe in muddy brown rivers in the mornings, and play soccer in sandy fields wearing jerseys from European teams like Chelsea in the afternoons.

In a Brazilian state ravaged by deforestation and thousands of fires, the Tembe shoot photos and video to document the cutting of trees in their land by loggers and share them on social media. They also recently met with a non-governmental group that offered the tribe drones and GPS devices to track the encroachers in exchange for harvesting wood sustainably. And like their an-



In this Sept. 2, 2019 photo, seven-year-old Emilia Tembe pulls back on her hand-crafted toy bow and arrow made of sticks and leaves as she stands on a fallen tree, in the Ka 'a kyr village, Para state, Brazil.

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Cidalia Tembe said in her backyard at the Tekohaw village, where she grows fruits, vegetables and medicinal herbs.

"These are our home remedies," she said. "We don't go to pharmacies in the city, we make our own medicines. We have more faith in what's ours."

She also proudly pointed to four sugarcane plants — each tended by one of her children — and avocados, coconuts, lemons and

too hot. ... Here, you're at ease and you don't hear the noises. Only the calls of birds," he said as birds chirped on trees.

One of the trees was planted by Muti's grandfather, a Tembe chieftain and Tekohaw founder. For generations, members of the tribe have extracted a black dye from that Jenipapo tree in the couple's yard to paint their body during celebrations.

During the rite of passage that can last for days, tribe members also hunt monkeys and birds that they later cook, while the young who come into adulthood jump, sing and mimic bird sounds with other members of the tribe inside a communal hut to banging of feet on the floor and the shaking of rattles.

About 2,000 Tembe live in their 1,080-square-mile (2,766-square-kilometer) Alto Rio Guama homeland, which can only be reached after long journeys on boats or on dirt roads. Villages along the Guama and Gurupi rivers that divide the reserve can range in size from a few dozen people to hundreds. The indigenous reserve is officially protected, but it's constantly under siege by loggers who illegally try to extract prized hardwood. The Amazon, 60% of which is in Brazil, is also home to

20% of the earth's plant species, many of which are found nowhere else.

Satellite data from the Brazilian Space Agency has shown a sharp increase in deforestation and forest fires in the past year. In August, the agency issued an alert that fires in the Amazon had increased 84% in the first seven months of this year, compared with the same period in 2018.

Concern about the Amazon's rainforest, has height-

breathe," said Gleison Tembe of the small village of Ka' a kyr, which in their native tongue means Green Jungle. "The Amazon, nature, is my mother, because it raised me. The animals that it takes care of give us strength. My children only eat natural food and it all comes here from the forest, he said. "So, why deforest?" In a corner, he dried fish in the blazing sun on a grill held by bricks. Inside his home, some of his children and nephews gathered around a cellphone on a purple hammock to watch a children's cartoon on YouTube. Later, during a short forest trek, his 7-year-old daughter Emilia climbed on a fallen tree that had burned and pointed a bow and arrow that she made with branches.

"This part used to be a native forest. This was primary jungle. But the fire arrived and it cleared the land," said Emidio Tembe, Emilia's grandfather and the Ka' a kyr chieftain who named the village.

"Our concern here is the food, the cutting of wood, the fires," said Emidio, who recently traveled to the state capital of Belem to sell his wooden handcrafts at a book fair.



In this Sept. 4, 2019 photo, local photographer Orerero Tembe edits his coverage of a meeting of the Tembe tribes in the Tekohaw village, in Para state, Brazil.

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cestors, they plant trees to teach their children the value of preserving the world's largest rainforest, which is a critical bulwark against global warming.

"I tell my children: I planted for you, now you have to plant for your children,"

acai, the Amazonian berry that's a vitamin-packed breakfast staple in Brazil.

"This is paradise," her husband Muti Tembe said. "You don't see any smoke from cars that pollute because we don't have any. In the city, at midday it gets



In this Sept. 4, 2019 photo, a child stands still as a woman paints a red mask around her eyes, in preparation for a gathering of tribes in the Alto Rio Guama Indigenous Reserve by the Tembe tribes in the village Tekohaw, Para state, Brazil.

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ened since far-right President Jair Bolsonaro took office this year with calls to loosen protections for nature reserves and indigenous lands.

"We have to fight for the trees that allow us to

"They worry us because we feed ourselves with fish, birds, what we hunt from the forest. So, for us, it's extremely important to remain in the forest, listening to the sounds of birds, the calls of the animals." □